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Travels on the history of mankind

Secret Research of Ancient Civilizations

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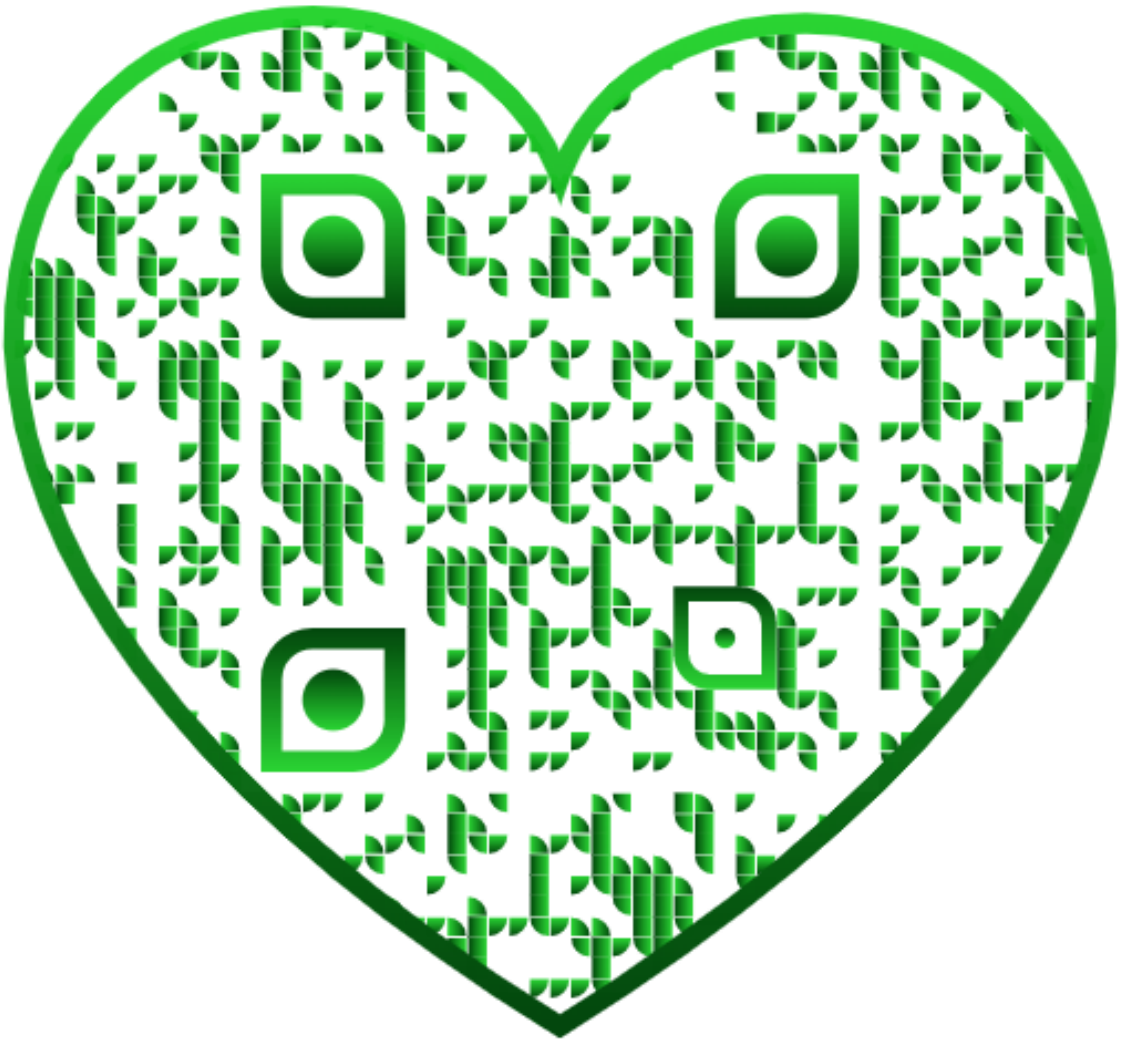

Secret Research of Ancient Civilizations

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Sarah B. Williams

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This is an extended edition, revised and updated. It contains interesting information about the Templers, describes the journey to the treasures of Manila Bay and also published a magical story about the beautiful Nefertiti.

This book is a large collection of historical articles that are devoted to unclear points in the culture and technology of ancient humanity. In it you can get acquainted with the most courageous assumptions and hypotheses of scientists about the lost civilizations and the mysteries of the origin of technologically developed human cultures.

Thousands of years ago, people settled in the most different corners of the earth, even in those places where it seemed impossible to survive.

Each of the ancient civilizations has left its mark in history and world culture. How did people live in those days? Why and how were such monumental buildings erected in their cities? How can one explain the amazing discoveries that many of their representatives have made? So, go to the depths of ancient and modern research and discovery!

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Unfortunately, English is not the author's native language. All errors and inaccuracies in the book remain on his conscience.

Hyperborean built the Egyptian pyramids

The Kola Peninsula has repeatedly been the focus of attention of researchers. It is with him that the myths about Hyperborea, the ancient ancestral home of many earthly peoples, are connected. One of the mysteries of the peninsula – are two man-made structures in the form of

pyramids, whose age is, as it turned out, not less than 9000 years. That is, they are twice older than the famous Egyptian!

Egyptian pyramids built Hyperboreans

Coming from the North

Ancient authors also mentioned the mysterious Hyperborea. Thus, Plinius the Elder argued that the Hyperboreans were the real ancient people who lived near the Arctic Circle (“beyond Boreas”) and genetically related to the Hellenes, who had the Apollo Hyperborean cult. In his Natural History, he wrote: “Beyond these mountains, on the other side of Aquilon, a happy people, called Hyperboreans, reaches very advanced years and is glorified by wonderful legends. The sun shines there during half a year, the luminaries rise there only once a year at the summer solstice, and set only at winter. This country has a favorable climate and is devoid of any harmful wind. Homes for these residents are groves, forests. The cult of the gods is done by individuals and the whole society; there are unknown disputes and all sorts of diseases. Death comes only from the glut of life. ”

By the way, in the ancient “builder texts” inscribed on the walls of the Temple of Gore in the Egyptian city of Edfu, it is told that the pyramids were built by some “enlightened” who came from the islands of the northern country of Douat-n-Ba, affected by flooding. They became the founders of the Egyptian civilization.

The priests of ancient Egypt described the Duat-n-Ba as a place where "the sun of the world hidden from us meets the sun of our world." According to Egyptian scholars, the word duat means the red light of dawn before dawn. Such is the dawn at the 65th degree of northern latitude, in the Russian North.

Hyperborea Hunters

The first attempt to unravel the secrets of the Kola Peninsula was made in 1921 by professor, head of the laboratory of neuroenergy at the All-Union Institute of Experimental Medicine Alexander Barchenko. However, after the return of the expedition, carried out under the auspices of the OGPU, and a report on its results to Dzerzhinsky, all information about this was strictly classified and there is still no access to it ... Barchenko himself was shot in 1937.

In 1997, the second expedition to the Kola Peninsula, headed by the famous scientist, Ph.D. Valery Demin, took place. For many years he collected materials about Hyperborea and concluded that perhaps this country was the ancestral home of all human civilization. And the material evidence of its existence should be sought in the Russian North, near the Arctic Ocean.

Expedition Demina bore fruit. A number of objects of supposedly anthropogenic origin were found on the peninsula. However, the researcher did not have time to tell the full information about his discoveries to the scientific world: he died in 2006.

There are pyramids!

... This place in the very center of the Kola Peninsula in the region of Mount Ninchurt, near Seydozero, has long been endowed with mystical power by the local Lapps. But until recently, two elevations overgrown with moss, lichen and small bushes were considered merely hills.

The first word “pyramid” was pronounced by the Murmansk researcher Lydia Efimova. She drew attention to the fact that these objects are located almost on a straight line in the direction west-east relative to each other. Efimova suggested that this is an ancient observatory that allows observing the starry sky.

In 2007, the International Club of Scientists organized another expedition with a specific goal to study the “Russian pyramids”. It consisted of 18 people of different specialties: historians, astronomers, geologists, cinematographers, including Valery Chudinov, Professor of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences, Dmitriy Subetto, Doctor of Geological and Geographical Sciences, Pulkovo Observatory’s press secretary, Sergey Smirnov, candidate of physical and mathematical sciences.

This is not to say that the expedition went smoothly. At first the group had no luck with the guides. The researchers could not venture to embark on a journey without a guide: the pyramids are located in a completely deserted and impassable place, and it is not so easy to find them. Is there nothing visible from the helicopter? covered with vegetation, they simply merge with the overall landscape.

None of the local Aborigines were eager to accompany the ex-pediatica. The first conductor said that because of this "work" he may have problems with "ancestors", and soon disappeared, leaving his players to the mercy of fate. I had to urgently look for another, more responsible.

Unforeseen difficulties arose with the flight to the pyramids. It seemed that unknown forces do not want to allow researchers to objects. Once a helicopter that drove a group of Demin, almost crashed? the pilots miraculously managed to land it. This time the expedition participants also had problems. As it turned out, on the day and hour, when the flight to the pyramids was scheduled, military planes were to fly over them at a low altitude. However, the expedition helicopter managed to slip through the air corridor when it was opened briefly.

But then the researchers were lucky. They were able to thoroughly

scan the facilities with the help of georadar. The conclusion was unequivocal: both objects are of artificial and not at all natural origin! In addition, they, it turns out, were subjected to alteration three times: they were built in height. Elevations consisted of several layers and had the structure of the correct pyramidal form with voids inside, diamond cutting and drilling was required to get inside. By the way, in form, they corresponded to the descriptions of the legendary Mount Meru, symbolizing the “axis of the world”, which can be mentioned in various myths and teachings.

"The Book of the God Toth" on the White Sea Rocks

Similar structures were found on the White Sea. In size, they are inferior to the Egyptian pyramids. But if you compare their photos with pictures of the pyramid of Khufu in Giza, it is clear that these buildings have many similarities in the form of blocks, the principle of masonry and the general structure. Pyramidal structures were also found on one of the groups of islands of Lake Ladoga.

According to historians, the name "Egypt" comes from "Hi-Ku-Ptah" (Ptah is one of the names of the creator God in the ancient Egyptian tradition). That was the name of the city in Upper Egypt. The literal translation of this name sounds like "the house of the soul Ptah." The Greeks pronounced it as “Ay-Gi-Ptos”, and later it was transformed into “E-Gi-Pet”. In the mouths of the Egyptians themselves, the name of their country sounded like “Kem Ta” (“black land”). And in Karelia, on the shore of the White Sea, there is the city of Kem ...

In the summer of 2010, another expedition of the International Club of Scientists discovered at the entrance to one of the megalithic complexes of the White Sea region a well-preserved hieroglyphic inscription, which in ancient Egyptian read as Ptah. Nearby on the stone was carved the face of a dog. As is known, the Egyptian god of wisdom,

Thoth, was sometimes depicted as a monkey with a dog's head. In addition, carved texts were found on the White Sea cliffs, supposedly belonging to the Hyperborean period and very similar to the ancient Egyptian ones ... They were even dubbed the "stone book of the god Thoth".

In the late 2000s, several curious objects were discovered on one of the White Sea islands not far from the same Kemi. One of them was a white egg-shaped megalith with the image of a bird, very reminiscent of an immortal phoenix, which, as we know, hails from Egypt. A little away there was a black giant monolith in which one could see, depending on imagination, a pentagram, a dog's head or a huge eye. A careful examination revealed a three-dimensional image of a throne with a base under which a man in a headdress resembling the crowns of kings of Upper Egypt sits, kneeling. There is an inscription: "Usir"? This is one of the forms of the name Osiris, which belonged to the ancient Egyptian god of the afterlife. Interestingly, a similar stone in the shape of a jackal's head closes the entrance to one of the mines of the Great Pyramid at Giza. This is a sculpture of the god Anubis guarding the entrance to the under-earth kingdom.

Another circumstance: the main exit of all Egyptian tombs, through which, according to beliefs, the soul of the deceased was sent to the afterlife, looks exactly to the north, where, according to legends, the Hyperboreans came. So the theory that the ancient Egyptians are descendants of the northerners is not so delusional.

Did Noah save dinosaurs?

In 1824, the President of the Royal Geological Society, Sir William Buckland, informed his learned colleagues that the bones found in England in 1815 (not far from Oxford, in the quarry where lime was

mined) belonged to a giant lizard that lived in prehistoric times.

Then these finds began to follow one after another, and in 1842 the term "dinosaurs" appeared. From decade to decade, as new discoveries appeared, information about giant reptiles living millions of years ago grew, and in the very fact of their existence many saw a devastating blow to the religious worldview.

Wrong crocodiles

First, the picture of the creation of the world presented in the Bible itself collapsed, which, as it turned out, exists not only a few thousand, but hundreds of millions of years, and was already inhabited by various animals in such a distant past. Secondly, it turned out that the same Bible does not contain, as the Jewish and Christian mystics claimed, all the secrets of the universe.

For example, militant atheists pointed out, not a word about the same dinosaurs. Thus, the question “Where does the Bible speak about dinosaurs ?!” has acquired a fundamental character for both believers and atheists.

Attempts by theologians to state that in fact dinosaurs never existed, that we are talking about either clever scientific falsification, or the remains of giants that are mentioned in the Bible, sounded ridiculous. Theologians denied the obvious facts and thus only put themselves in an awkward position.

Meanwhile, the dinosaurs in the Bible and the ancient sources accompanying it are certainly mentioned. To verify this, simply open the Book of Books. But to open it not in translation into one language or another, but in the original, that is, in Hebrew, or in "Hebrew," as this language was called just a little more than a few years ago.

“And God created the big fish, and every soul of animals ...” (Genesis, 1:21), says the synodal translation of the Bible. This phrase sounds almost the same in many other translations of the Bible into Russian, including those made by various Jewish translators.

However, in the original, the same phrase reads as follows: “Va-ivra Elo-gim et ha-taninim ha-golim v-kol ne-fesh hai ...”

But “tanim” is anyone, but not fish. In modern Hebrew, the word "tannin" means "crocodile." But it also clearly does not correspond to its original meaning, so translating "God created great crocodiles ..." would also be wrong, although in any case much more accurate.

Not fish, but ... lizards

The second time with the word "tannin" we encounter in the Bible in the story of Moses. It is in the “tannin” that Moses’s staff turns at the command of the Most High, however, in this case, the majority translate this word as “snake”.

There is the word "tannin" in other books of the Bible. For example, in the 90th psalm, but there it suddenly translates as "dragon."

However, from ancient and medieval Jewish sources it clearly follows that in reality “tannins” (“tannins”) are not fish and not crocodiles, but precisely lizards. Simply put, “big tannins” are dinosaurs. Far closer to the original is the translation of this passage from the Book of Genesis by Frima Gurfinkel.

"And God created the monsters big and every living, creeping soul ..." - this is the phrase about "tannin" in its interpretation.

Another, very close to the original version of the translation, was proposed by Gedaliah Spandiel: “God created great water creatures and every creeping living creature ...”

The idea that “tannin” in this passage should be understood as fish, appears to have arisen in connection with a completely forgivable mistake made by an outstanding medieval commentator in the Bible, Rashi (1040-1105). He believed that since “tannins” are said to have been born in water, they should be attributed to fish.

But Rashi also immediately sends readers to the ancient legend, according to which the legendary biblical Leviathan belonged to the “tannins”. Leviathan himself, says this legend, which is closely related to the Bible, continues to live in the depths of the ocean, but all the other “great monsters” disappeared from the face of the Earth, or, in the language of tradition, were destroyed by God's decision.

This destruction itself, explains the legend, was due to the fact that God understood: given the enormous needs of the giants in food, other types of animals with them simply cannot coexist. Thus, if we proceed from this idea, the cause of the death of dinosaurs could be the lack of food resources, the inability of the planet to feed a large number of such giants. From this follows another conclusion: modern life forms could only develop due to the extinction of dinosaurs. Together they simply could not coexist due to lack of food resources.

About reproduction

The fact that the Jewish scholars of the Bible and the oral traditions connected with it knew not only about the existence of dinosaurs, but also about some features of their life, is testified by another fact. The method of breeding dinosaurs became known to scientists only in 1859 (before this question was the subject of heated debate).

However, in the Talmud compiled during antiquity, it is stated that the “tannins” multiplied with the help of eggs. “Those that came out of the water, breed and multiply by laying eggs, and those that were created on land, multiply and multiply by procreation,” the Jewish sage Rabbi Elazar explains in this well-known set of laws and traditions.

From this rule formulated by him, ancient scholars concluded that the ancestors of whales, dolphins and other marine mammals were originally land animals, which science has confirmed relatively recently.

Cosmic cataclysm

As for the question of what was the cause of the death of dinosaurs, here too one can look for the answer in the Bible and the ancient sources accompanying it. According to the Kabbalistic book Zohar, which is the basis of Jewish and modern European mysticism (tradition is attributed to the authorship of Rabbi Shimon Bar-Yohai), long before the creation of the world in its present form, "Holy, blessed be He, created different worlds and destroyed them to the ground."

From here, many theologians conclude that dinosaurs were representatives of one of these previously created worlds, which were destroyed by the Creator through a global cataclysm. Others believe that modern science was mistaken in the very dating of the death of dinosaurs, and at least some of the species of these giants coexisted for a while with man - here, they say, and you should look for the sources of almost all legends about dragons. Finally, according to one opinion, dinosaurs died during the Flood, when geological shifts and volcanic eruptions began on Earth, on the one hand, and on the other, showers of extraordinary power, that is, there was a dramatic change in climate.

This is how commentators interpret the words of the Bible that in

the days of the flood "all the sources of the great abyss (that is, those under the earth's crust) opened and the windows of heaven opened" (Genesis 7:11).

Biblical legends say that the physical reason for the flood was that for the sins of mankind God changed the laws of the universe and brought the Pleiades constellation closer to Earth - so that "two stars from the Pleiades hung in the sky and the flood came."

No doubt, in this case we are talking about some kind of cosmic cataclysm, perhaps about the fall of two giant meteorites (“two stars hung in the sky”), or about the convergence of some large celestial bodies with our planet, which inevitably should have caused tides, and disturbances in its depths.

Did Noah save the dinosaurs?

But again, it is impossible not to notice that these versions of biblical sources surprisingly echo the various versions of scientists who claim that the cause of the extinction of dinosaurs was the fall of a giant meteorite, a sharp climate change, etc.

In response, convinced atheists immediately sarcastically remind us that, according to the Bible, Noah took all the animals into his ark during the flood. “So why didn’t he take dinosaurs with him?” These critics of the Bible reasonably ask.

But supporters of a religious worldview have an answer to that too. First, they say, in fact, far from all the representatives of the Earth’s fauna entered Noah’s Ark - surely there were also those species that had disappeared as a result of the flood.

Secondly, who said that Noah didn’t take dinosaurs into the ark at

all? That is, the dinosaurs themselves, he may not have taken because of their size. But he could grab the babies of some of them. Due to this, the giant lizards can be kept in some hidden corners of the planet and in our days.

As an opportunity for such a development, supporters of this version recall the legend that King David once in his youth once met a sleeping beast, which the Bible calls Reem. Outwardly, Reem resembled a two-horned rhinoceros, but its dimensions were so great that David took him by the hill and, with his flock, climbed his withers.

Finally, the references to dragons and their images we find in a variety of ancient sources. For example, the famous Roman mosaic of the 1st century BC captured the hunt for the beast, which, according to the signature, the Romans called “KROKODILOPARDALIS” (“tiger crocodile”), however, by its size, and by the structure of the body and head, it is clear that this is about dinosaur.

Many ancient Chinese figurines depicting dragons are also remarkably similar to dinosaurs, whose appearance was restored by paleobiologists. And finally, are how not to recall the various hypotheses of cryptozoologists about the surviving dinosaur individuals in various parts of the Earth?

It remains for us to state that we can believe or not believe in God, but the Bible, of course, is a unique repository of the historical memory of mankind and ancient knowledge. And therefore to dismiss it or draw conclusions on the basis of an extremely superficial acquaintance with its text is clearly not worth it.

Cradle of civilization

The sensational discovery of a German archeologist in 1994 in Anatolia makes it possible to take a fresh look at the ancient history of human civilization. On a mountainside in Southeast Turkey, not far from the Syrian border, an expedition led by Klaus Schmidt dug up a magnificent ancient temple, which is 12 thousand years old.

Older than Stonehenge.

Klaus Schmidt privat-docent of the German Archaeological Institute in Berlin, is studying the ancient history of mankind. When Schmidt began excavations at Gobekli Tepa in 1994, he was confident that these excavations would become the main activity of his life. The archaeological complex in this area can be compared with Stonehenge in England, with the only difference being that the ruins in Anatolia are 6 thousand years older.

As a child, Klaus Schmidt did not climb out of the caves in his native Germany, hoping to find prehistoric drawings there. Thirty years later, already presenting the German Archaeological Institute, he discovered something infinitely more important - the temple complex, almost two times older than all similar structures on the planet.

"This place is a supernova," says Schmidt, standing under a lone tree on a wind-blown hill 55 km north of the Turkish-Syrian border. "Already in the first minute after its discovery, I knew that I had two ways: either leave from here, without saying a word to anyone, or spending the rest of life here on these excavations. "

Behind him, the first bends of the Anatolian Plateau open. Ahead of Baghdad, hundreds of miles ahead, the Mesopotamian plain, like a sea of dust and color, extends further south. Right ahead, hidden behind the ledge of the hill, the Gobekli-Tepe stone circles. In those days, when people had not built permanent dwellings for themselves, they did not

know how to make a simple clay bowl, they obtained food for themselves by hunting and gathering, the inhabitants of Southeast Anatolia erected a monumental shrine to their gods.

Compared with Stonehenge - the most famous prehistoric monument in the UK - they are not amazed by the grandeur of scale. None of the excavated round structures (and there are currently four out of twenty) does not exceed 30 meters in diameter. What makes these finds quite unique are the images of boars, foxes, lions, birds, snakes and scorpions carved on them, as well as the age of the finds themselves. They were created in 9.5 thousand years BC. They are 5.5 thousand years older than the first cities of Mesopotamia and 7 thousand years old - Stonehenge.

Almost like jericho

In Gobekli Tepe, archaeologists discovered on the hill a gigantic complex of round buildings and stone pillars with carved reliefs. Currently, only a small part of the buildings has been excavated, but, if we take into account the age of the ruins, it becomes immediately clear that this is a unique archaeological monument.

The ancient ruins of Nevali-Keri, which since 1992 have been located at the bottom of the Ataturk reservoir, are almost as old as Gobekli-Tepe, their age is 10,500 years. But the posts there are much smaller, and the decoration is more modest. Gobekli Tepe temples can compete at the age of Jericho, but there are no large sculptures, no architectural decorations.

All other ancient archaeological sites belong to another era - they appeared about 2 thousand years later. The people who created these rounded monuments and stone bas-reliefs, the whole complex, did not even have pottery and did not grow cereal crops. They lived in

settlements. But they were hunters, not farmers.

Judging by the age of the Gobekli-Tepe complex, it was in this area that hunters and gatherers moved to a settled way of life. In Gobekli-Tepa, the intellectual abilities of the people of the Stone Age, their diligence and knowledge of the construction business are most striking. But until now, scientists were confident that the implementation of such huge projects as the construction of the temple, suggests a sedentary lifestyle and a high degree of organization.

"It has always been assumed that only complex societies with a hierarchical structure could build such monumental buildings, and that they appeared only with the emergence of tillage," says Ian Hodder, a professor of anthropology at Stanford University (Stanford University), who since 1993 has been leading the excavations in Chatal-Hoyuk - the most famous of the Neolithic settlements in Turkey. - Gobekli turned all the views. This is a complex structure and belongs to the era before the birth of agriculture. This fact alone places it among the most important archaeological finds over a very long period of time. "

Why was the sanctuary covered with earth?

The archaeological site at Gobekli Tepa was first surveyed in 1963. However, then archaeologists underestimated its value, and for a long time did not work there at all. On the hill, in the thickness of which the temple complex is located, there was an oats field. The peasants now and then removed the bulky stones that hindered them from the fields, so that the upper part of the temple was destroyed before it was investigated by scientists.

From the excavated sites, it can be concluded that people have been here for a very long time. Next to the round building of the sanctuary, several smaller buildings were found, in which, apparently, some ritual

meetings took place. But in all these buildings there are not the slightest signs of human habitation.

Excavations have been going on for ten years. As a result, only a small part has been cleared so far, but the purpose of Gobekli Tepe for the people who built it remains unclear. Some believe that this place was intended for fertility rituals, and two tall stones in the center of each circle symbolize a man and a woman.

But Schmidt with skepticism refers to the theory of fertility. He shares the opinion that Gobekli-Tepe could be "the last flourishing of the semi-nomadic society, which the farming epoch was about to destroy." He points out that if today this place is preserved in almost perfect condition, it is only because its builders soon buried their creation under tons of earth, as if their world rich in wild animals lost all its significance.

But there are no symbols of fertility, which were found at the site of other excavations of the Neolithic era, and the T-shaped pillars, being apparently semi-human, are asexual. "I think that here we are confronted with the earliest images of gods," says Schmidt, stroking one of the largest boulders with his hand. "They have neither eyes, no mouths, nor faces. But they have hands and they have palms." They are creators. "

"From my point of view, the people who cut them out, asked the greatest questions of all," the scientist continues. "What is the universe? Why are we here?"

Perhaps the most interesting thing in Gobekli Tepe is his last days. The buildings are undoubtedly buried, and this is precisely what explains their good preservation. All the ancient religious buildings were simply abandoned, abandoned, but the temple on the Anatolian hill was literally buried in the ground. The massive building with monolithic giant pillars

covered with magnificent reliefs, filled to the brim with stones and soil, so that it literally disappeared under the ground.

"Portraits" of wild animals

Although archaeologists have freed only a part of Gobekli-Tepe from under the embankment, the unusually large dimensions of the sanctuary can already be assessed. It consists of four different temples, surrounded by a low stone wall. Of particular interest are T-shaped monoliths with partially preserved reliefs. They are very naturalistic depict birds, gazelles, bulls. Next to the image of a donkey and a snake can be discerned the head of a fox. There are even spiders and a wild boar with a volume made with a blunt, stupid snout.

The fact that the temple builders attached great importance to the animal world is not surprising in itself. But they depicted wild animals, and this confirms the assumption that the creators of the sanctuary were not sedentary farmers. Another interesting fact is that in the vicinity of Gobekli-Tepe all kinds of wild-growing cereals are presented, which were subsequently cultivated as grain crops.

Mysterious pictograms

Perhaps Gobekli-Tepe is thus the missing link in the chain - a connecting element between primitive nomadic hunter-gatherers and sedentary farmers. Production of monolithic stone pillars with reliefs requires certain professional skills - for this, stone cutters are needed. It means that other people supplied the stone-cutter craftsmen with everything necessary for life, that is, they had a society based on the division of labor.

On some pillars are icons. Some archaeologists suggest that these icons may have influenced sign systems that arose at a later time, but it

is difficult to see if there is a connection between them. Hieroglyphs were not common in neighboring Mesopotamia, but in ancient Egypt, that is, far from Gobekli-Tepe. In addition, the time interval between Ancient Egypt and Gobekli-Tepe culture is very long.

The end of the Gobekli-Tepe sanctuary came at the beginning of the eighth millennium BC. At that time, agriculture spread in neighboring Mesopotamia. The soil around Gobekli Tepe is scanty, perhaps for this very reason the sanctuary lost its meaning. The most important centers were formed much further south, on the fertile plains, in the river valleys. At least, this can partly explain why people left the temple; where for hundreds of years their ancestors worshiped gods. They covered the sanctuary with stones and forever left it.

The lessons of Gobekli Tepe induce to reconsider the idea of the so-called Neolithic revolution. Until now, historians have thought that the transition of nomadic tribes to a settled way of life created the prerequisites for the construction of large urban centers and huge temples. But the Gobekli-Tepe experience proves that, in all likelihood, it was just the opposite: the very existence of the grandiose sanctuary, where the main rituals took place, prompted people not to move away from it, but to remain close to the holy place and arrange their permanent dwellings. So, first there was a temple, and then a house, a village and a city.

There is one more very interesting moment connecting Gobekle Tepe with Easter Island. The fact is that the images of bird-headed creatures on steles in Gobekla Tepe are very similar to the images of the same creatures carved on the stones of Easter Island.

Alien technology of ancient Egypt

At the turn of the III millennium BC in Egypt, almost from scratch there was an inexplicable technological breakthrough. As if by magic, Egyptians erect pyramids in the shortest possible time and demonstrate unprecedented skills in the processing of solid materials - granite, diorite, obsidian, quartz ... All these miracles occur before the appearance of iron, machine tools and other technical tools. Subsequently, the unique skills of the ancient Egyptians just as rapidly and inexplicably disappear...

Take, for example, the story of the Egyptian sarcophagi. They are divided into two groups, which differ dramatically in the quality of performance. On the one hand, casually made boxes, in which uneven surfaces predominate. On the other hand, multi-ton granite and quartzite containers of an incomprehensible purpose, ground with incredible skill. Often, the processing quality of these sarcophagi is at the limit of modern machine technology.

Ancient Egyptian sculptures made of heavy-duty materials are no less a mystery. In the Egyptian Museum, anyone can see the statue, carved from a single piece of black diorite. The surface of the statue is polished to a mirror shine. Scientists assume that it belongs to the period of the Fourth dynasty (2639-2506 BC) and depicts Pharaoh Khafre, who is credited with building one of the three largest pyramids of Giza.

But bad luck - in those days, the Egyptian masters used only stone and copper tools. Soft limestone such tools can still be processed, but diorite, which is one of the hardest rocks, by no means impossible.

And it still flowers. But the colossi of Memnon, located on the west bank of the Nile, opposite Luxor, are berries. Not only are they made of heavy-duty quartzite, their height reaches 18 meters, and the weight of each statue is 750 tons. In addition, they rest on a quartzite pedestal of 500 tons! It is clear that no devices for transportation would not

withstand such a load. Although the statues are badly damaged, the excellent execution of the surviving flat surfaces suggests the use of advanced machine technology.

But even the grandeur of the Colossi is fading in comparison with the wreckage of a giant statue resting in the courtyard of Ramesseum - the memorial temple of Ramses II. Made from a single piece of pink granite, the sculpture reached a height of 19 meters and weighed about 1000 tons! The weight of the pedestal, which once stood a statue, was about 750 tons. The monstrous size of the statue and the highest quality of execution absolutely do not fit into the technological capabilities of Egypt known to us in the period of the New Kingdom (1550-1070 BC), which is dated by modern science.

But Ramesseum itself is fully consistent with the technical level of the time: statues and temple buildings were created mostly of soft limestone and do not shine with construction delights.

We see the same picture with the colossi of Memnon, whose age is determined by the remnants of the memorial church located behind them. As in the case of the Ramesseum, the quality of this structure, to put it mildly, does not shine with high technology - unbaked brick and roughly adjusted limestone, and that’s all the masonry.

Such an incongruous neighborhood can be explained only by the fact that the pharaohs simply attached their temple complexes to the monuments left over from a much more ancient and highly developed civilization.

Another mystery is connected with the ancient Egyptian statues. We are talking about eyes made of pieces of rock crystal, which were inserted, as a rule, in limestone or wooden sculptures. The quality of the lenses is so high that thoughts about turning and grinding machines come

by themselves.

The eyes of the wooden statue of Pharaoh Chora, like the eyes of a living person, look either blue or gray depending on the angle of illumination and even imitate the capillary structure of the retina! Research by Professor Jay Enoch of the University of Berkeley showed the amazing closeness of these glass dummies to the shape and optical properties of the real eye.

The American researcher believes that Egypt reached its greatest skill in lens processing by about 2500 BC. e. After this, such a wonderful technology for some reason ceases to be used and subsequently forgotten altogether. The only rational explanation is that the Egyptians borrowed quartz blanks for eye models from somewhere, and when the reserves dried up, the “technology” was also interrupted.

HOW DID THE GODS LOOK?

The ancient Greek historian Diodorus Sicilian wrote from the words of the Egyptian priests that mortals ruled Egypt for less than 5 thousand years. The kingdom of people was preceded by the power of gods and heroes who ruled for an incredible 18 thousand years. The ancient Egyptian priest and historian Manetho also begins his list of rulers of Egypt from the dynasty of gods and demigods.

If we compare the statements of ancient authors and the facts that we have at the moment, it turns out that there was no technological breakthrough. Just starting from the III millennium BC. e. artifacts from the first divine dynasties began to emerge in Egypt. It is not excluded that the pharaohs purposefully searched, tried to master and at the same time assign the surviving fragments of this heritage.

About the appearance of the original creators of ancient

masterpieces can tell the sculptural images of the daughters of the pharaoh-reformer Akhenaton. The first thing that catches your eye is the unnaturally elongated shape of the skull, which is characteristic, by the way, for other works of the Amarnian period. This phenomenon spawned a hypothesis about the congenital disease of the family of Pharaoh. However, no mental abnormalities in the family of the ruler, which inevitably should cause such a disease, are not mentioned anywhere.

If the pharaohs were indeed distant descendants of the gods, it is possible that from time to time they could manifest "divine" genes. Is not the anatomical feature of the gods associated with the custom of deformation of the head common among various peoples?

Another important and mysterious detail of the ancient Egyptian sculptural canon is the absolute symmetry of the proportions of the face. As is known, there are no symmetrical objects in nature. This rule applies to the human body. Moreover, experiments have shown that photographs composed of strictly symmetrical halves of the same person cause an instinctive rejection in a person.

It throws something unnatural and alien to human nature in them. But, maybe, in that world, from where the gods came, reined other natural conditions, thanks to which the “anomaly” became the norm? Anyway, we should listen carefully to the words of Plutarch: "It is not the one who denies the existence of the gods that falls into greater blasphemy, but the one who recognizes them as what their superstitious people consider."

Sacred fences of antiquity

We are faced with complex, one might say, highly mysterious excavations. It would seem that they should relate to the earlier tradition, which in Greece gave rise to the concept of “darkness”, literally, “segment” or a piece of land allotted to God. "The sacred fiery place, in the center of which was the altar of God, which is the center of worship and the only integral feature of the cult structure."

In the same vein, which meant "temple." Including the Celtic word "nemeton", which also meant "temple", besides the altar and still forest and the clearing, is still not clear, but it is quite acceptable. Due to what we observed in Freeford and Geo-Colonies, as well as on a vast land, 625 feet high, near Koblenz, with a central pillar, supposedly 40 feet high. They probably belong to the VI century BC. The thermal springs at Le Fontaine Sale (department of Yonne) were in the 1st century AD fenced not only by a double ring wall, but also by something like an oval recessed trench under the tables, 30 x 50 feet. As in the previous romance-celtic series.

It should be emphasized that the Celtic religious buildings associated with Stonehenge or similar monuments of the previous 2nd millennium BC. The unusual “Stonehenge model”, allegedly found by Heidenmauer (Odilinberg) in the Alsatian “Fortress on the Hill” and sketched by Kendrick, most likely is a playful reconstruction of the thoracic stones, which is the manufacturer of the excavation of a children's toy allowing some kind of Celtic shrine. The “fortress on the hill” itself, as now proved, dates back to the 4th century AD.

There is a Gallo-British word "nemetone", used for the names of a temple or shrine, meaning a sacred grove or clearing in a forest. The word, which comes from the Latin "nemus", means that the forest, how much forest. The most celebrated "Nemus" was the Nemus, where "the Priest who killed the murderer dwelled and he himself would be killed."

He was called "Rex Nemorensis." Asia Minor, called "Drunemeton", is a sacred oak grove. Fortunat writes in the VI century AD about the area called “Verniemet / he /”, “what in Gallic language means “Green Sanctuary ”. In the Celtic world, there were many places called “nemetone”: from the Median-Methone in the South of Scotland, Vernemeton between Lincoln and Leicester and in Gaul, to Nemetoduru (modern Nanterre) and Neme-Tobrig in Spain. Aqua Arnemetiae (modern Buxton) shows us how the thermal springs were connected to the sacred grove. In the 8th century, “forest sanctuaries”, called “ni-midae,” are considered linguistic blasphemy, and in the 11th century, the Breton “forest, called “Nemeth”, is recorded in the chronicles. The idea was designated as “immediate” and “fidnemedkos” (forest sanctuary or sacred grove).

The hillfort in Ireland on the hill of Tara in County Meath was the political and ceremonial center traditionally abandoned in the 6th century AD. Like other places related to the "kings" of early Ireland, such as Kruahan and Imain Mach, the above-mentioned settlement is a complex of earthworks, one of which, as it turned out during the excavations, is an embankment covering a stone tomb dating from about 2000 BC e. A large round earthen structure, known as the Council of Synods, was partially excavated and found evidence of the existence of wooden buildings and round log fences, apparently of a ritual nature. All this dates from (in Roman imports) the period between the 1st and 3rd centuries AD. e. The presence of a large number of animal bones indicates the possibility of sacrifice. There are other round earthen

"buildings on the hills" and one polygonal fence. But we'll talk about it below.

There are two more remarkable sacred walls, of the same elongated, almost rectangular plan. And although one of them is located in the Czech Republic and the other on the Marne, both are located within the boundaries of the central region of the early Celtic world. French settlement earlier, perhaps X century BC. e. The fence is bordered by a square-trench trench, 300 x 50 feet in size, which is directed north-east to south-west. The entrance to it is located at a distance of a quarter of the length along the south long side. Perhaps the trench was the base of the palisade. Inside there are four burials, including, possibly, a sacrificed infant, as well as a pit with the skull of a huge bull, possibly previously impaled on a pole standing in this pit, just opposite the entrance.

Czech settlement in Libenitsy near Kolin dates back to the III century BC. It is surrounded by an oval moat with rounded ends and is approximately 300 feet long and 75 feet wide and is oriented from northwest to southeast. In the southeastern end, supposedly there was something like a "sanctuary." There was a stone stele and two closely located pits under the pillars, next to which were charred remains of burned pillars and two bronze neck rings. Their presence was reasonably explained by the fact that they served as decoration for wooden pillars hewn in the shape of a human figure.

The pits, which were the lowered floor of the sanctuary, appear to have been dug out for some period, as if during repeated ceremonies, like libations, and then they were filled up. All this happened for about twenty four years. The bones of people and animals found indicate that sacrifices were performed in the fences. The woman’s burial site was also found there, probably one of the priestesses of this shrine. Another rectangular sacred fence in Czechoslovakia is located in Mshetsk-

exehrovica. It has dimensions of 650 x 350 feet. A remarkable stone sculpture was found there: a life-size head of a god or a hero. The extended plans of the sanctuaries at Olney and Libenitz suggest that the mysterious earthen structure on Tara Hill, known as the Banquet Hall (750 x 90 feet), may have a similar purpose.

Returning to the excavation on Marne, where we saw late structures erected inside small square fences surrounded by ditches, it should be noted that burials were also found there, as, incidentally, in other places: in the south (near Yonne), in the east (in Czechoslovakia), in the north (in England - in Hertfordshire and in the east of Yorkshire).

There are other rectangular or square fences with internal buildings or tombs. There are a lot of them, and they date from the IV century BC before the eve of the Roman conquest, which is reflected in the fenced cemeteries of Gaul and Britain. This type of structure, as was recently shown, originates almost at the dawn of the VII century BC, as evidenced by the cremated remains in the urn of the same dating, found in a quadruple, surrounded by a moat fence (37 feet in diameter) near Destelberg (Belgium). To the south of Bonn, a group of cemeteries enclosed in square ditches dating back to the Late Historical or Early Roman period was found. Apparently, they are a manifestation of the same tradition.

The location of the corner fences, surrounded by moats near Wallertheim in Reinheßsen, is of this general type and resembles, although in a reduced size, the Roman-British settlements of the Roman road, where it intersects with the Bokerle dam on the border of Wiltshire and Dorset. In the system of corner ditches excavated by General Pitt Rivers, a graveyard of graves in an almost square moat-enclosed fence was found. If this place belonged to the Roman-Celtic sanctuary, then you can explain the phenomenal number of coins that were found during excavations somewhat to the south of it, which is very similar to a

similar find of scattered coins around the Roman-Celtic temple in the form of a double square in Wooditon.

In the “fortress on the hill” located in Castlerey (Wiltshire), excavations revealed a series of fences surrounded by moats, concentrated in a straight section (about 200 square feet) within a non-defensive moat with an external embankment. The internal structures date from the Dorian period, and the large fence - the Roman. The internal structure was not examined for log buildings, but the presence of coarse paving was noted. At the same time, it is impossible to dismiss the question of whether this area was a ritual focus of the temple site. Such plots lead us to a rather remarkable group of sacred fences characteristic of the Celtic world, namely, the straightforward earthen structures of the German Viereckschanze-type, related mainly to the last phase of the development of the local Celtic culture. They belong to the cult centers.

Their main group is compactly distributed over the region bounded from the south by the Alps from Lake Constance to Salzburg. They are found in the north along the Rhine. In Switzerland, near Bern, and in Eastern France there is some concentration of smaller structures located between Chartres and the River Seine. However, the field archaeological work carried out in France will undoubtedly change our understanding of their range.

Archaeological sites comparable to these (or other previously mentioned fences) may also remain unidentified and exist as a class of monuments of the Iron Age or the Roma-Man-Brittansky sacred sites of the south of England. Land structures in Heathrow and others, for example in Berkshire (Robin Hood’s gazebo in Maidenhead), Bull Hill in Uffington, Roden Dunes in Compton and Fox-Furlong in Long Whittenham, where three rectangular fences each contain a well or a shaft. But we'll talk about this later.

The same mine was discovered in Bozense (St. Ert, Cornwall) inside a square earthen structure on top of a hill. These examples date from the period from the end of the pre-Roman phase to the fourth century AD. Our main knowledge of the German excavations is related to the Viereckschanze in Holzhausen (Bavaria), where very remarkable material evidence of Celtic culture was found.

The fall of the Inca Empire

Francisco Pissarro arrived in America in 1502 in search of happiness. For seven years he served in the Caribbean, participating in military campaigns against the Indians.

In 1524, Pizarro, along with Diego de Almagro and the priest Hernando de Lucé, organized an expedition to the undiscovered territories of South America. But its participants never manage to find anything interesting.

In 1526, the second expedition took place, during which Pissarro

exchanged gold from local residents. During this expedition, the Spaniards captured three Incans, in order to make them translators. This expedition turned out to be very difficult, and both diseases and hunger fell to their share.

In 1527, Pissarro enters the Incan city of Tumbes. From the locals he learns about the large amounts of gold and silver decorating gardens and temples in the depths of their lands. Realizing that military forces are needed to obtain these riches, Pizarro travels to Spain and turns to Charles V for help. He talks about the countless treasures of the Incas, which can be quite easy to get. Charles V gives Pissarro the title of governor and the captain of the governor on all the lands that he will be able to conquer and control.

Even before the start of the conquest by the Spaniards, the Incas suffered from the appearance of Europeans on their continent. Black pox mowed whole families of natives who did not have immunity to it.

At about the same time, Ouina Kapak (Sapa Inca) dies. The highest public office should go to one of the sons of the main wife. He chose one of the sons who, according to the monarch, could cope better with his duties. In Cusco, the capital of the Incas, the nobility proclaims the new Sapa Inca - Huascar, which means "sweet hummingbird".

The problem was that the last years of his life the previous Sapa Inca spent in Quito. As a result, most of the yard lived in Quito. The city became the second capital, dividing the leaders of the tribe into two rival groups. Quartered in Quito, the army preferred the other son of Uayna Kapak - Atahualpe, which means “wild turkey”. He spent most of his life next to his father on the battlefield. He was a man of sharp mind. Later, the Spaniards were amazed at the speed with which he mastered the game of chess. At the same time, he was merciless, as proof of this could serve the fear of the courtiers to incur his wrath.

Atahualpa showed loyalty to the new Sapa Inca. But he refused to come to the court of his brother, perhaps fearing that Wascar sees him as a dangerous rival. In the end, Sapa Inca demanded the presence of a brother next to him at the court. Refusing an invitation, Atahualpa sent ambassadors with expensive gifts instead. Huaccar, possibly under the influence of courtiers hostile to his brother, tortured his brother's people. After killing them, he sent his army to Quito, ordering by force to deliver Atahualpa to Cuzco. Atahualpa called loyal to him the soldiers to arms.

In the beginning, the army of Cusco even managed to capture a rebellious brother. But he managed to escape and join his own. In the battle Atahualpa defeated those who captivated him. Huascar gathers the second army urgently and sends them to his brother. Recruits with poor proficiency could not be compared with veterans of Atahualpa, and were defeated in a two-day battle.

As a result, Atahualpa captures Uuscar in captivity and enters Cuzco in triumph, after which a brutal reprisal was committed against his wives, friends and advisers of the unlucky brother.

In 1532, Pissarro and Almagro returned to Tumbes with 160 well-armed adventurers. On the site of a once flourishing city, they found only ruins. He suffered greatly from the epidemic, and then from the civil war. For five months, Pissarro moved along the coast, plundering the imperial depots along the way.

As a result, Pizarro goes to the court of Atahualpa. Nine of his men, frightened by the prospect of being in a mountainous area, turned back in the realm of the Incas.

The Spaniards were surprised by the roads of the Incas, paved with stone slabs, with trees planted along the edges, creating a shadow, as

well as channels lined with stone.

Learning about the movement of white people within his country, Atahualpa invites them to his house. From the words of the ambassador, he realized that the Spaniards look and are friendly. During the meeting with the ambassador, Pizarro made gifts to the monarch and spoke a lot about peace.

Pissarro placed his people in open space, on the main square of the city Cajamark. He sent Hernando de Soto to pay his respects to Atahualpe, so that he tried to tempt him with his offer to meet in person.

Atahualpa rebuked the Spaniards for plundering its warehouses and for neglecting some Indians on the coast. To which the Spaniards began to praise their martial art and offered to use their services. Atahualpa agrees to pay a visit to Pissarro in Cajamarca.

During this meeting, Hernando de Soto wanted to scare Atahualpa and almost drove him on his horse, stopping him in close proximity, so that drops of horse's saliva fell on Inca's clothes. But Atahualpa did not flinch. Later he ordered the execution of those courtiers who showed fear.

Pissaro, following the example of Cortes, who conquered the mighty Aztec empire through the abduction of the emperor, began to prepare his ambush.

At night, Atahualpa sent 5,000 warriors to block the road north of Cajamarca. According to his plan, which he later confessed to the Spaniards, he wanted to capture Pissarro and all his warriors alive in order to sacrifice to the sun god Inti, and leave the horses for divorce.

At dawn, Pissarro placed his people in buildings around the square.

The wait was painful for the Spaniards, as the Inca’s tenfold numerical superiority was frightening and overwhelming. Later, as one of the eyewitnesses admitted, “many Spaniards unconsciously urinated in their pants because of the terror they held down.”

At sunset, the imperial procession approached the square. Atahualpu was carried by 80 servants on wooden stretchers, inlaid with gold and decorated with feathers of parrots from all sides. The monarch in clothes with gold threads and all in ornaments, sat, holding a golden shield with a heraldic image of the Sun. There were dancers and musicians accompanying them. His retinue consisted of more than 5,000 soldiers (the main forces, about 80,000 soldiers, were outside the city). They all came without weapons.

On the square they saw only one Dominican monk in a robe with a cross in one and the Bible in the other hand. The Royal Council in Spain ruled that pagans should be given the opportunity to adopt Christianity voluntarily, without bloodshed, and the conquistadors decided not to violate the letter of the law. The monk explained the meaning of the Christian faith to the Inca ruler, and the translator explained to him that he was being asked to accept the religion of foreigners. “You say that your God accepted death,” Atahualpa responded, “but mine still lives,” he said, pointing to the Sun that was crawling beyond the horizon.

Atahualpa picked up a prayer book stretched out to him. As he understood it, the Spaniards valued this thing as much as the “Huaca” Indians, the talisman in which the spirit of the gods was acquired. But this object seemed to him a toy compared to their huge stone "Ouk", which the Incas worshiped, so he threw it on the ground. According to eyewitnesses, after that, the monk turned to Pissarro and told him and his people: "You can attack them after this. I will release all your sins to you in advance."

Pissarro signaled an attack. Two guns fired a volley on a crowd of Indians. Spanish horsemen, left the buildings fully armed and attacked unarmed Inca soldiers. The marines followed them to the sound of pipes with a battle cry - "Santiago!" (The name of the saint who helps, according to the conviction of the Spaniards, to defeat the enemy).

It was a cruel slaughter of unarmed Indians. Pissarro with difficulty pulled out of her Atahualpa. Within hours, 6,000 Inca warriors died in and around Cajamarca, but not a single Spaniard was killed. Pissarro himself was one of the few wounded who was injured by his soldier when he tried to break through to the royal enemy in order to capture him alive.

Many researchers have tried to understand why Atahualpa made such a fatal mistake by going to the Spaniards with unarmed warriors. Perhaps the leader did not even consider such a course of events, when such a small detachment would try to attack his huge army. Or believe in the speech of the Spaniards about the world.

In captivity, Atachualpe was allowed to keep all royal privileges. All his wives and servants were near him. To him were nobles and carried out his orders. In less than a month, he learned to speak Spanish and even write a little.

Realizing that white people are beckoning gold, he decided to buy off by offering for his freedom to fill the rooms in which he was located with gold, as well as twice to “fill the Indian hut with silver”. Instead of releasing Atahualpa with such a sentence, he signed his death sentence. Having ordered that the gold be disrupted in Cuzco, and delivering it to the Spaniards, he only kindled their passion for the precious metal. At the same time, fearing that his brother would be able to offer even more gold for his freedom, he ordered his execution. The Incas did not perceive gold and silver as something valuable. For them, it was just a

beautiful metal. They called gold "sweat of the Sun", and silver "tears of the moon". Fabrics were valuable for them, as it took a long time to make them.

The Spaniards began to suspect that Atahualpa was plotting against them. This gave rise to panic fear in their ranks. Pissarro for a long time resisted the mood of his countrymen. But in the end, panic broke and his resolute attitude.

Atahualpa began to realize the inevitability of his death. His religion guaranteed him eternal life with the proper performance of the ceremony.

At a meeting of the council, chaired by Pissarro himself, it was decided to burn Atahualpa. When the Spaniards informed the leader of their decision, he burst into tears. The destruction of the body meant the deprivation of immortality.

The monk before his death once again tried to convert the pagan to the Christian faith. Realizing that if he accepted Christianity, he would not be burned, but choked with the help of garrote (a hoop with a screw, for slow suffocation of the victim), he agreed to undergo an initiation ceremony, assuming that the body would be handed over to the people for mummification. But the Spaniards fooled him here too. After the chieftain was strangled, they burned his clothes and a part of his body on the fire. The rest of them are interred.

Pizarro understood what benefits the local ruler under his Spanish control offered him. He opted for the son of Uayna Kapak - Manko Inca. When the Spaniard arrived in Cuzco, they were greeted as well-wishers who restored the legitimate ruling branch of the Incas, although all the mummies before their appearance were safely hidden.

Conquistadors did not differ generosity and in every way humiliated Manko, showing disregard for the customs of the Incas. The worst happened when Pissarro went to the ocean coast, in order to found a new capital, Lima. The main he left his brothers Gonzalo and Juan. Gonzalo treated Manco with undisguised contempt. Having kidnapped his beloved wife, he abused her.

The excesses committed by the Spaniards, led to the fact that Manco flatly refused to cooperate and attempted to leave Cusco. The Spaniards returned him to the capital chained. In conclusion, they were subjected to various kinds of humiliations.

As a result, Manco persuades one of Francisco's brothers, Hernando, who recently came to Cusco from Spain, to temporarily release him from prison so that he could pray at the shrine, for which he promised to donate a golden statue of his father. As soon as Manco got out of Cuzco, he called his people to rebellion. It ended in the siege of Cusco, which lasted almost a year. During this siege, there were traitors among the Indians, both in Cusco and beyond, who secretly dragged food to the invaders. Among them were even the relatives of Manco himself, who were afraid of reprisals for their former support of the Europeans, on the part of the new ruler. The hopelessness of the siege became clear when reinforcements arrived from Spain. Some supporters of Manco even broke away from him, realizing that the opportune moment had been missed.

After the failure of the siege of Cusco, Manco took 20,000 of his compatriots with him into the dense jungle. There they built a new town Vilkabamba in a short time. It occupied an area of about two square miles and consisted of about three hundred houses and sixty monumental structures. There were convenient roads and canals.

From this city, the Incas sometimes raided the conquerors,

attacking guard posts. In 1572, the Spaniards decided to end this last stronghold, as evidence of the former power of the natives. When they reached Vilkabamba, they found only deserted ruins on the site of the city. Advocates before leaving the city burned him. The Spaniards continued to chase, penetrating further and further into the jungle. As a result, they captured the last Inca chieftain Tupac Amaru. He was brought to Cusco and his head was cut off in the town square. So the dynasty of the Inca rulers was cut short.

The result of the fifty-year stay of the Spaniards was a reduction in the indigenous population - by three-quarters. Many died from diseases brought from the Old World, and many from forced labor.

Huge amounts of gold and silver were exported to Spain. Art objects were usually melted before being exported. The finest items were delivered to the court of Charles V, then they were exhibited for public viewing in Seville. When Karl began to experience a shortage of funds for military campaigns, it was ordered to melt down these outstanding works of Incan art.

Atlantis - the lost paradise of mankind

Disputes about the legendary island of Atlantis, on which the city of Atlanteans was located, have not been silenced for two thousand years - since the great Plato told about it in his dialogues "Timaeus" and "Critias". Where not only did they search for this mysterious country: in the Atlantic Ocean and South America, the Mediterranean Sea and Africa, in Asia Minor, the North Sea and in many other places. But where Atlantis was “found,” she did not respond to Plato’s descriptions. But in the place indicated by the philosopher (that is, behind the Pillars of Hercules), this mysterious land cannot be found until now ...

Among scientists there are two approaches to the term "Atlantis". As mentioned above, in the first Atlantis, the ancient Greek philosopher Plato called Atlantis. But Plato's predecessors also knew about her, although they called this country by other names. Ancient authors under Atlantis understood a certain state, which was at the same stage of development with Greece, fought with it and during one of the wars died in a grandiose catastrophe.

However, in the occult sciences there is the idea of Atlantis as a kind of proto-civilization, which preceded ours and perished as a result of a whole series of catastrophes. This is also indicated by the myths and legends of the peoples of various countries living on different continents. But many of them have an idea about some people, which preceded modern humanity and died as a result of some powerful cataclysm.

“Plato is my friend, but the truth is dearer,” said the great Aristotle at one time. So this problem was posed: where, when and how did the state of the Atlanteans exist? Someone acknowledges the existence of Atlantis without any doubt, someone without any doubt rejects, based on the formula: "This can not be, because this can never happen." But most researchers believe the existence of Atlantis is quite likely, but requires proof. The Greek philosopher Krantor says that in the year 3010 AD I saw in Egypt a column on which the entire history of the island disappeared into the deep of the sea was broken.

What was known about Atlantis Plato? In his dialogues, he reports that Atlantis disappeared in one day and one tragic night - "in one awful day."

Getting to describe Atlantis, Plato warns that the name of the island itself, as well as all the other names in its story are not modeled, but a translation into Greek. The Egyptians, who first wrote the history of

Atlantis, translated Atlantean names in their own way. Solon, who informed Plato about this island, did not see the need to preserve the Egyptian names and translated them into Greek.

Russian poet - symbolist V.Ya. Bruce in his work "Atlantis" notes that "Plato describes Atlantis already in the state it reached after several millennia of cultural life, when there were already many separate kingdoms on the island, many rich cities and a huge population of millions." And the history of the island itself began with the division of the land between three gods-brothers: Zeus, Hades and Poseidon. Poseidon by lot and got the island of Atlantis and, in addition, he became the Lord of the seas. When Poseidon received Atlantis, only three people lived on the island - "one of the husbands, initially produced by Earth, named Eunor with his wife Livkippa and a beautiful girl, Clayto's daughter." Poseidon fell in love with Clayto, she became his wife and gave birth to five pairs of twins - the first ten kings of Atlantis.

Poseidon first began to strengthen the island, which would make it inaccessible to enemies. Around a low hill, gradually rolling over into a plain, three water and two earthen rings alternately alternated around the circumference. In the very center of the hill (acropolis), on a dais, Poseidon built a small temple for Clayto and himself, encircling it with a wall of pure gold.

A palace was built on the acropolis, which was expanded and decorated with each king, and the new one would certainly strive to surpass his predecessor. "So it was impossible to see this building without being amazed at the size and beauty of the works."

The kings - the children of Poseidon, of course, could not do without bathing, and for this they built numerous baths on the acropolis. "For swimming there were ponds, open, and, for winter time, closed; there were special ones for the royal family and for individuals; others

were separate for women, and also for horses and pack animals; each of them was located and decorated according to The water that came out of these reservoirs was sent to irrigate the forest of Poseidon, where the fertility of the soil produced trees of amazing height and beauty. "

The largest and most majestic building of the acropolis was a temple dedicated to the god Poseidon alone. He was truly gigantic in size: 185 meters long, 96 meters wide and the "appropriate" height. From the outside, the large temple was entirely lined with silver, except for the "extremities" made of pure gold. Inside the temple were many statues of gold. The largest of them depicted the god Poseidon, who, standing on a chariot, controlled six winged horses. The statue of Poseidon was so high that it almost touched the head of the ceiling, which was trimmed with ivory and all decorated with gold, silver and oryhalki. The walls, pillars and floors inside the temple were completely lined with orihalkom. Everything literally sparkled and “lit up,” as soon as the sun's ray penetrated inside the sanctuary.

Many more miraculous reports Plato about the capital of the Atlanteans, and then goes on to the description of the whole country. "The island of Atlantis was very elevated above sea level, and the coast was raised by an inaccessible precipice. A plain surrounded by mountains reached the sea around the capital." Everyone said about this plain that it is the most beautiful on earth and very fertile. It was thickly dotted with flowering villages, separated by lakes, rivers, meadows, where many wild animals grazed.

Much came to the Atlanteans from the outside, due to the vastness of their power; but the island itself produced almost everything necessary for life. "Firstly, all metals are hard and low-melting, suitable for processing, including the one that we now know only by name: orichalc ... deposits were found in many places on the island; after gold, it was the most precious of metals.

The island delivered all the necessary materials for crafts. There were a lot of domestic animals and wild animals on the island, by the way, many elephants ..... The island gave all kinds of animals abundant food, both living in swamps, lakes and rivers or on mountains and plains, and these (elephants), although they huge and voracious.

Produced and delivered the island all the flavors, now growing in different countries, roots, herbs, juice, flowing from fruits and flowers. There was also a fruit that gave wine (grapes), and one that serves as food (cereals), together with those that we also eat, calling a common word - vegetables; there were still fruits giving at the same time drink, food and incense (coconuts?) …… These were divine and amazing riches, such innumerable quantities produced this island. "

Next, Plato describes the political structure of the capital and its own, because "with such a bounty of soil, the inhabitants built temples, palaces, ports and harbors for ships and tried to decorate their island…".

On the happy island, each of the ten brothers - kings had absolute power in his kingdom, but the kings passed the general government of the state of Atlantis to the Council, to which they gathered in 5-6 years, alternating between even and odd numbers. The supreme power always remained with the direct heir of Atlanta, but even the main king could not sentence any of his relatives to death without the consent of the majority of the kings "while Atlants followed the rule of virtue during the rule and while" divine principle prevailed in them, everything they managed. "But when the “human character” triumphed - a low base, when they lost all decency and unrestrained greed began to boil in them, when people began to present a “shameful spectacle”, then the God of Gods - Zeus, seeing the evolution The Atlanteans, once so virtuous, decided to punish them. "He gathered all the gods in the heavenly sanctuary and addressed them with these words…"

At this, Plato's dialogue "Critias" suddenly ends. And the story begins of Atlantis and its search for a length of two thousand years. Sacredly ministers mourned the spiritual wisdom of Atlantis, who defiled themselves. The philosophers talked about the divine rulers of this island, the poets sang the fabulous perfection of its structure. However, some researchers believe that the dialogues about Atlantis were needed by Plato to express their thoughts about the ideal structure of the state.

But the story about Atlantis, as Valery Bryusov notes, "is not something exceptional in the writings of Plato. He also has other descriptions of fantastic countries denounced as myths. But none of these stories contain, like the description of Atlantis, references to Sources. Plato, as if anticipating future doubts and objections, takes care to indicate the origin of his information with the greatest precision which ancient authors knew. "

At the beginning of the 20th century, three expeditions were equipped and sent in search of Atlantis, one of which (the second) was headed by Pavel Schliemann - grandson of the famous discoverer of Troy, Heinrich Schliemann. "According to Pavel Schliemann, his famous grandfather left a sealed envelope so that he would be opened by one of the family members who will make a solemn promise to devote his whole life to research, references to which he will find in this envelope. Pavel Schliemann made such an oath, opened the envelope and read the letter there. In the letter, Heinrich Schliemann reported that he had undertaken research into the remnants of Atlantis, in whose existence he had no doubt and that he considered the cradle of our entire civilization. In the summer of 1873, he seemed to find Ops in Troy), a large bronze peculiar vessel, inside which were smaller clay vessels, small figurines made of a special metal, money from the same metal, and objects “made of fossil bones.” On some of these objects and on a bronze vessel It was written in "Phoenician hieroglyphs": "From the king of Atlantis,

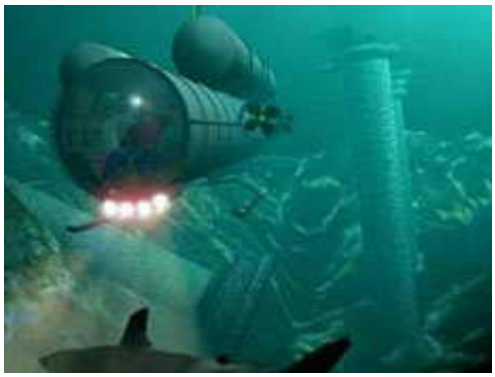
Chronos." But for many researchers, both Russian and foreign, this story causes distrust.

The search for Atlantis was conducted and conducted everywhere - around the globe. The Soviet hydrogeographer Ya.Ya. Gakkel presented his "Atlantis" in the form of a narrow strip that stretches along the underwater Lomonosov Ridge and connects the Canadian Arctic Archipelago with the Novosibirsk Islands. Full member of the Geographical Society, member of the Scientific Council on Cybernetics of the Russian Academy of Sciences Alexander Kondratov devoted a lot of work to relations between the history of mankind and the history of the oceans. He wrote a lot of books about the legendary Platonic Atlantis and about the numerous "Atlantis" - the so-called hypothetical lands, now gone under the water.

Foreign researchers Renata and Yaroslav Malina in their works on natural disasters and newcomers from space write that the Atlantean navigators explored the Earth ... They say "they traveled through the air and under water, photographed objects at a great distance, used x-rays, fixed images and sounds on video tapes, used a laser from a crystal, invented a terrible weapon using cosmic rays, also used the energy of antimatter. However, the use of dark forces of nature for selfish purposes Stony priests and frequent earthquakes transferred to the collapse of the mainland on many islands, which later also disappeared into the sea. And ten thousand years BC, an underground explosion destroyed the island of Poseidonis, but the radiation emitted by a large crystal lying in the place of the death of Atlantis leads to the sudden disappearance of ships and aircraft in the famous Bermuda Triangle. "

As can be seen from the above, the geography of the search for Atlantis is very wide and varied.

Is there any hope of finding Atlantis?



Only one thing can finally solve the problem of the existence of Atlantis: the finding of what remains of it on the seabed. If this event takes place, then most likely it will radically change all ideas of humanity about its own history.

Can this happen in the foreseeable or immeasurable future?

Odds of detection

Most likely the sunken Atlantis can be found on the top of the seamount or on the underwater plateau. However, the presence of somewhere underwater mountains does not prove the existence of remains of an ancient civilization there.

Scientists can obtain information about the seabed in several ways: having personally been at the bottom of an aqualung (no deeper than 100 meters), an armored spacesuit (up to 160 meters) or a controlled underwater vehicle (up to 500 meters), using soil pipes, drags or bottom dredgers, underwater photographing or television.

scuba gear - The most convenient for an archaeologist, but suitable only for small depths, and the study of the bottom with the help of scuba diving takes a long time.

spacesuit - inconvenient, because at great depths severely restricts the freedom of action and freedom of movement of the diver.

underwater vehicle - Convenient to search, but does not provide adequate freedom of action.

ground pipes - Can not give an idea about the objects at the bottom, describe only a small part of the bottom, do not act on hard rocks (or buildings and roads).

dredge or bottom grabers - Do not give an idea about the position of objects on the bottom, as well as the remnants of architectural structures.

underwater photography or television - The most encouraging search for sunken Atlantis.

Using the above methods, scientists explore the oceans. Repeatedly, they made valuable archaeological finds, however, during all this time nothing was found that would prove the existence of a sunken continent. The pace of underwater research is increasing all the time, so from a technical point of view there is hope for the discovery of any objects in the ocean.

Chances of saving

Over the past 4'000 years, a layer of more than one meter thick has disappeared from the surface of the Egyptian pyramids! And this happened in just 4'000, and not in 12'000 years, and not under water, but on land. The content of dissolved oxygen in water is very significant; therefore, underwater weathering is, in essence, an oxidation process. All compounds of ferrous iron with time turn into compounds of ferric iron. Limestone and all limestone rocks are also affected by carbon dioxide.

In ancient times, limestone (marble), igneous rocks (granite, basalt, granidiorite, peredotit) and sandstones served as building materials. For 11'500 years, a wall erected from basalt or tuff would completely dissolve in seawater. On pure limestones of small porosity, for example, marble, sea water does not act that much, and porous limestones or rocks with high aleurite content can completely collapse in a very short period of time.

The speed of underwater weathering and rock destruction is influenced by three more factors: precipitation cover, biological processes and mechanical destruction.

Rain cover

If a building or structure is covered with sediment, then it is out of the corrosive effects of water and can last much longer. But, on the other hand, it reduces the probability of finding archaeological remains many times.

Biological processes

In the shallow seas, limestone structures are exposed to mollusks, which easily make their moves in it. Some species of mollusks drill the rock mechanically; others pickle it with the help of secreted acid. Drilling mollusks usually live in shallow water, no deeper than 55 meters. For several centuries, a limestone block can be drilled to such an extent that it will disintegrate into small fragments from the weak movement of water.

Mechanical Destruction

At depths of up to 10 meters strong fluctuations can relatively

quickly destroy any buildings of Atlantis.

By analogy with the Greek cities, we can conclude that a large number of metal objects, ceramics and wood should be concentrated in the place of the death of Atlantis.

Metals

In fresh water, all metals have chances of preservation, but in salty seawater their chances are far lower, as metals are affected by salts. Salt has a corrosive effect on metals; in addition, the decomposition process is accelerated by galvanic currents. Sea water acts as an electrolyte, metals act as anodes and cathodes. After 200 years, iron turns into a hydrated oxide. Pure copper (if items are thin) and copper alloys [bronze, brass (orichalc?)] Disappear in 200 - 400 years. However, if the thickness of the copper objects is significant, then a layer of carbonates may form on the surface, protecting the object. Provided that it has a high enough sample, the gold is stable. Some metals may persist if they are quickly covered with algae or corals. But in this case, the detection of these items becomes almost incredible.

The tree disappears in 100 - 200 years.

Ceramics

If the surface of products is carefully polished and not damaged, then they can withstand several thousand years. Burnt bricks are destroyed in a few centuries, and unfired in 10 to 30 years.

So, the preservation of many objects depends on how long they are in contact with sea water and whether they are quickly covered with sediment.

The rate of sedimentation depends on the proximity of the sources

of sedimentary material and on underwater currents. In some places, such as the English Channel or in the Aegean Sea, this process also takes place at depths greater than 200 m, but usually at great depths the rate of precipitation is negligible. In shallow water (up to 10 meters), objects at the bottom, ship hulls and buildings may either fall asleep or be uncovered. In the bays and the coastal part of the shelf, the rate of accumulation of sediments can be 50–200 cm over 100 years, and near the deltas several times more. At great depths, in the middle of the shelf or in the upper parts of the continental slope, a layer of sediments with a thickness of 20 cm accumulates over 1,000 years, which is 2 meters in 11,500 years. In deep-sea areas, at depths from 300 m to several kilometers, only a few centimeters of precipitation would accumulate over 10,000 years. But in such places we are unlikely to find the remains of Atlantis. It would be most likely to be found on the tops of underground mountains or ridges, where underwater currents often carry silt and sand.

So, if some ruins were on the seabed for 11'500 years, there would be little left of them. And if they were saved from destruction by a thick layer of precipitation, then their detection would be many times more difficult.

Hyperborea can be reborn!

The Ripaean Mountains and Mount Meru are one and the same geographical object. It is absolutely clear for people who have been to the North that this is the Valdai ridge, which passes into the Northern U shafts. This watershed of the rivers of the north and south flows, which stretches from the Baltic to the Urals. Here is the boundary to which the glacier reached during the glaciations of the planet.

The moment will come when the glacier reappears. Then the many kilometers mountain will begin to creep from the Arctic Ocean to the mainland. The first to die Scandinavia, followed by Northern and Central Europe. And in place of modern Karelia, a unique microclimate is formed between the glacier and Valdai, where huge herds of animals will be grazing for several thousand years, as in the African savannahs. Hyperborea will be revived here again. It was about this country that the ancient authors remembered, knowing it from the legends of the Scythians and Sarmats.

Rypean-Hyperborean mountains cartographers designated up to the HUI century. The last time the name Hyperborea is found on a map dated 1606 (recall that Russia did not exist at that time, and all the more so today the Kremlin Junta, rewriting history asserts that some ancient Russian state allegedly existed). In place of tales of the existence of the Old Russian state, Muscovy existed (with slaves in the flesh until 1608).

By 1606, according to Europeans, Hyperborea was not far from Novgorod. What actually is not far from the truth. Just medieval authors, like modern conservative historians, could not understand that Hyperborea was in different places at different times. One thing is for sure: it was at the foot of the glacier, where a unique Alpine microclimate was created. And the glacier then went north, and then returned to the line of modern cities Veliky Novgorod - Tver. Hyperborea was moving behind him. In the Aryan epic about the first king of the people of Yima about this is discussed in detail. I have already cited

these myths in my books.

The least information we have about the third legendary peak - Mount Kaf, mentioned in the holy books of Muslims.

“The Lord Almighty created the great Jurassic from green chrysolite - because of this, the sky has a greenish tide. Mount Kaf, as it is called, surrounds the whole earth completely, it was the Almighty One who swore it, and Kaf called it ”(Sura 1.1).

“... behind the Jurassic Kaf - Jura is the size of five hundred years of the way, and it consists of snow and hail. It is she who removes the heat of hell from the world ... ”.

So, behind the top of the world was still a glacier. And a huge size. This is an important point. Perhaps the theologians of Islam mean the same mountain Meru, Hara Berezaiti or the Ripean Mountains. I am convinced that in the Aryan, ancient Greek and Arab sources we are talking about the same geographical object. The only contender can be called the Ripaean mountains only the Valdai ridge, which runs along the northern border of the Tver region, and their continuation the Northern Uvaly, which the researcher points to, Ph.D. Svetlana Zharnikova.

The Northern Uvaly is only a part of the extended upland, which make up the Valdai, Galich, Gryazovets-Danilov Uplands and the Timan Ridge. The Northern Uvaly is a wavy, sometimes swampy watershed of the basin of the Volga and Northern Dvina rivers, from the sources of Kostroma in the west to the upper Kama and Vychegda in the east. The length is 600 kilometers. Height up to 293 m. Valdai - elevation on the border of Tver and Novgorod regions. Here is the Seliger lakes system. Valdai is the cap of the world. The Northern Uvals are not just a watershed of the Volga and Northern Dvina, but a watershed of two oceans - the Arctic and the ancient internal Eurasian Proocean Tethys,

the remains of which are the Caspian, Azov, Aral and Black Seas. It is from here that all the rivers flow in two opposite directions - either to the south or to the north. Some of the rivers from Valdai flow south into the Black Sea (this is the Dnieper), some flow further west and flow into the Baltic Sea, and some (Volga) into the Sea of Azov. Actually, this exactly coincides with the description of Paradise from the Old Testament among Christians and Jews.

The Eurasian Ocean Tethys began to dry when its waters broke through the Mediterranean into the Atlantic Ocean.

You can easily reach the Arctic Circle from Uvalov, and therefore all astronomical phenomena of high latitudes can be observed here. The polar star at its zenith, Ursa Major high above her head; a little closer to the coast - and the northern lights are already visible, and the year consists of one polar day and one polar night, which the Aryan books of the Vedas call "the day of the gods".

According to the researcher Vladimir Orlov, although everything coincides, but the Northern Uvaly is not suitable for the role of World Mountain in size. Legendary peaks were described as unrealistically high. The height of Mount Kaf was defined in "five hundred years of the way ~ -

with an average pedestrian speed of 4 kilometers per hour, this is 17.52 million kilometers. The height of the mountain was no less fantastic.

Meru is 86,000 yojans, which equals 1,204,000 kilometers. The most modest was Khukarya, the highest peak of Hara Berezaiti,

the height of the “height of a thousand men” - something about two kilometers. But even the two-kilometer Khukarya is not comparable to

Valdai and the Northern Uvals, where the mountains are more like high hills.

Vladimir Orlov expresses the opinion that everything that was written by the Rig Veda, the Avesta, ancient geographies and Islamic suras, is described not entirely by the Northern Hills, but by the glacier that formed this relief. Today, only hills and hills remain from the glacier, lakes that stretch from Tver to Murmansk itself, forming the mysterious landscape of Karelia, Vologda, Arkhangelsk and other northern regions of Russia. Indeed, the very origin of the Northern Uvalov was completely determined by the glacier. For the history of mankind Valdai glacier several times went far to the north and returned to the Northern Uvalam and Valdai.

However, for the ancient people it did not matter. If rivers flow down from their peaks, then they really were the highest points - it is difficult to argue with these points. Ancient books do in some cases speak of the mountains of Valdai and Uvalov, and in some cases of the Valaisky and Moscow glaciers. Remember the Muslims: “for the Jurassic Kaf is a Jurassic the size of the nyatyot years of the path, and it consists of snow and hail. It is she who removes the heat of the heat from the world. Thus, Mount Kaf is still not a glacier, but quite a real green mountain (that is, wooded), located, most likely, in remote places on the border of the Tver and Novgorod regions in Valdai. And it would be very interesting to find it.

American Indians - Myths and Reality

America, Arizona, red rocks, desert, cacti, February, + 28 ° C, piercing blue sky and dazzling white sun, not a single cloud. The locals call this weather boring, because every day the same thing ... I and my friend John drive a jeep to the White Mountains - the sacred lands of the Apache tribe, where reservations are located. Some 50 minutes and from summer we got into the winter: there was snow, pines and firs around, as if there were no cacti...

How do today's Indians live? I, like most Russian people, who saw Indians only in cinema, had the impression that Indians on reservations live in “wigwams” (the correct name is “tipi”) and wear leather clothes with feathers. What was my disappointment when, when I got on the reservation for the first time, I saw dilapidated huts such as those in Russian villages, lop-sided fences, rusty cars, bumpy roads covered with rubbish and old tires, and drunk wide-faced (like our drilled) men in jeans and baseball caps, with a bottle in hand ... “My God, I thought, just like in a Russian village! Maybe this is one big reservation in Russia? ”Fortunately, I visited various reserves and a total of four tribes - Apache, Hopi, Navajo and Zuni. And that's what I noted: in those tribes where the Indians managed to preserve their indigenous cultural tradition, spirituality, there were no problems with drinking. They were drunk only where traditions were lost. It dawned on me! We have the same situation in Russia - in the villages people get drunk because they have not preserved the traditions of the indigenous, tribal culture of life on earth.

Reservations. Everyone can enter the territory of most reservations - now there are no fences or fences, there is only a sign at the entrance: “Zuni Land”, or “Hopi Land”. But you can only stay on reservations if there are friends there. Indians do not make casual acquaintances. It is necessary for you to be introduced by a good friend, then you will be in your family. I was introduced to the Indians by my friend John. He is white, but for many years he worked in a charitable organization on the territory of various reservations. John was close friends with several Native American families. Indians immediately took me for their own. Apparently, the Russian spirit in me was in tune with the Indian, and they felt it. The closer I got acquainted with the culture and spirituality of the Indians, the more I felt the depth of this tradition, its closeness with the traditions of our ancestors of the Slavs.

In some tribes, a story about how their ancestors came from Siberia is still transmitted from mouth to mouth. The traditional dwellings of the Hopi and Navajo tribes are six- and octahedral log houses with a smoke hole in the center of the cone-shaped roof. Exactly the same traditional home from the indigenous people of Altai. But the majority of Indians in reservations still live not in traditional dwellings, but in “caravans” - trailers, permanently installed on blocks, or in “bungalows” - cheap frame houses.

Regular American food in the United States, in my opinion, is impossible. In reservations, the food prepared by the Indians was very tasty and similar to ours. It is no wonder that the potato, which has become traditional for Russians, came precisely from the Indians. From them came tomatoes, corn, pumpkin and tobacco. Tobacco is an example of the erroneous use of a traditional product. After all, Indians smoke tobacco only during prayer. One Indian told me that if all smokers prayed when they smoke, we would live in a completely different world.

Interestingly, the waving flag of the United States on the territory of reservations can be seen much more often than in the rest of the United States. At the same time, US laws on reservation lands do not apply. Therefore, offenders who have escaped justice from the United States find refuge on reservations, which significantly increases the crime rate there. For the same reason, there are often casinos that are banned in most parts of America. Each tribe has its own police and its own laws. Usually it is forbidden to take photographs on reservations. But I took some photographs, with the permission of the Indians.

Traditions. Like the ancient Slavs, almost the entire ritual life of the Indians is associated with solar and lunar cycles. Thus, the points of the summer and winter Solstice, the spring and autumn Equinox in their traditions are key and determine the whole course of their life. According to the lunar cycle, Indians usually perform the ritual “Svetlodch” (“Sweat Lodge”, or, in Indian, “nipy”). They are offended if someone calls this ceremony a Native American bath. In the “light”, they do not bathe and do not steam, although there they feed water on hot stones, as in a bath. In the "light" pray. Indians pray for relatives, for friends, for enemies, for their people and for all of humanity. It is not customary for them to pray only for themselves. In this case, there can be such a high temperature in light that it can be kept only in the state of prayer. This is the rite of internal and external cleansing. Before entering the light, clean through fumigation with wormwood. Wormwood for Indians is one of the most sacred plants, the smell of which ejects the unclean from the dwelling, from the physical and delicate human bodies.

Attitude to the elements - land, water, fire and air - among the Indians is reverent, as to living entities. For example, throwing garbage into the fire of a home is considered to be unacceptable, dismissive attitude to fire and to the house.

Indians are a few people. Only they can be expressed so succinctly,

deeply and poetically, even in English. “Walk your talk” - they say (I will not translate, because it will not work so beautifully). Or the phrase “Look towards the Sun and you will not see the shadow” poeticly reflects their worldview.

When John and I went to the Indian shrine, Spider Rock, on the Navajo Reservations in the De Shea Canyon, our conductor was an 82-year-old Indian Johnsi. John asked the Indian for a long time, and after a significant pause, Johnsy answered shortly: “Yes.” Then John again asked some questions, and each time the Indian simply answered “Yes” or “No”. I have not heard any other words from his mouth. Johnsie led us to Spider Rock, where, according to legend, the Spirit of Spider-Woman lived, who taught the Navajo Indians to weave, weave and sew clothes. Spider, like the web, the Indians is a positive way. Native American amulets "dream catchers" ("dream catcher") are made in the form of cobwebs. Such an amulet is hung on the window and it is believed that at night it only allows good energies to pass through, and bad catches into its nets so that only good dreams can be dreamed of. Such “dream traps” are now sold in ethnic souvenir shops in Russia. But I must upset you: almost all of them are made in China. As well as Russian dolls, which I saw in the shops of ethnic souvenirs in Arizona. From afar, they look like dolls ...

The special attitude of the Indians to the land. They say: "the earth does not belong to us, we belong to the earth." Deep responsibility for the earth and for the whole earth is an integral part of their spiritual culture. The dances of the Indians are not just spiritual practices that allow the dancer to communicate with the Great Spirit (“Wakan Tanka”), but a ritual of self-sacrifice that redeems the sins of all humanity and restores the connection between man and nature. In such a ritual, the dancer dances without stopping from dusk to sunrise several nights in a row, which requires incredible fortitude and courage. If the dancer fell, it is a bad sign - there will be a hurricane, drought or other cataclysm.

Indians know for sure that nature depends on them just as they depend on nature. They believe that the world is still held due to their dances, and that all earthquakes, diseases and cataclysms on Earth are due to the fact that people have lost contact with Nature and rape it.

For Indians, Nature is a sacred living book through which the Great Spirit communicates with them. A flying bird, a beast running through, a gust of wind, the noise of foliage, a floating cloud - all these are living signs and symbols that an Indian reads like letters and words. When the Indians greet each other, they say: "O metako ash", which means "all my brothers." The same greeting the Indian says when he enters the forest, approaches the lake, or meets a deer. All creatures in the sacred circle of Nature for the Indian are brothers.

From the history. When the first whites landed on the shores of America, their food ran out and they died of starvation. The Indians brought white food, taught them to grow local crops, and they survived. This day is now celebrated as the biggest holiday in America - Thanksgiving. More than half a century after that, the Indians and whites lived in peace. The natives of Britain gave birth to healthy children and they all survived, whereas in Britain itself, every eighth child survived at that time. White developed the land, engaged in agriculture. The Indians were hunting. There was a mutual exchange of products. Then the whites fenced their plots of land. But the Indians seemed not to notice the fences, continued to move freely through them in the process of hunting. White did not like it and they began to explain to the Indians that there was their own land behind the fence. Here it all started! The Indians could not understand - how could the land be someone’s property? How can land be sold or bought? The war began ...

What happened to America further, we roughly represent. I can say that those tribes that converted to Christianity managed to survive and preserve their traditions. They simply incorporated Christianity into their

traditions. On the Navajo Reservations, I visited a Christian temple. The temple was built of logs in the traditional octahedron shape, the entrance was from the East, in the center of the cone-shaped roof there was a one and a half meter hole in the sky, under it there was a hole in the floor, there was ground. "Heaven and earth are sacred to us," the Indians explained to me. On the wall hung an icon of Jesus Christ. Christ was red-skinned, in a loincloth and with the symbol of the sun on the blessing hand. The Indians turned to the four sides of the world sacred to them, Heaven, Earth, and began a prayer in the Navajo language with the words: "O Jesus Christ, the Son of God, our elder brother, come to us ..."

Here I won't hold on and tell a joke that I heard from white Americans: One Indian got to a high-ranking priest. He taught the Indians Christian commandments, showed the crucifix and icons. Suddenly, the Indian noticed the phone at the priest's chair. "What is it?" Asked the Indian. "And this is a direct telephone to God," answered the priest. "True? Can I give it a try? "Asked the Indian. The priest scratched his head and said: "Actually, you can, but not for long, this is an expensive call for a long distance ..." A few years later, this priest passed through the reservations of that Indian. The Indian was glad to see him, showed him the village, local rituals and traditions. Suddenly, the priest noticed an old, shabby phone at the feet of an Indian. "What's this?" Asked the priest. "And this ... this is a direct telephone to God," said the Indian. "Can I talk?" Asked the priest. "Yes, of course," said the Indian, "and you can say as much as you want, this is a local call ..."

Most Indians are very jealous of their traditions and strongly protect them from whites. Here on this topic I will tell the real story of life. Traditionally, Indians from different tribes meet at the annual holiday "Pow Wow." Usually this takes place at a stadium, where there is a podium with spectators and a platform where various kinds of games, contests, dances, etc. take place. All participants of competitions and dances are usually dressed in traditional clothes made of leather with

beads and feathers, as we used to see in the movies. But most Indians sitting in the stands are dressed like ordinary Americans in jeans, T-shirts and baseball caps. Among the spectators there are also white ones, because this event is open to all. So one white, apparently adherent of Indian culture, was sitting on the podium in traditional Indian clothing made of leather with feathers. The Indians looked at him for a long time, then they could not stand it, came up and said: “Listen, boy, we don’t like that you wear our national clothes. Go change your clothes. ” The guy was not a blunder. He dressed in jeans, a T-shirt and a baseball cap, went to the playground and addressed the Indians sitting on the podium, saying: “Guys, I don’t like that you wear my national clothes. Go, change clothes ... ".

But among the Indian shamans there are also those who sincerely share the depth of their tradition with whites. Such, for example, is the leader of the Solar Bear (Sun Bear), who founded the well-known community of the "Solar Bear Tribe", where Indians and whites live in peace and harmony. Some of these shamans also come to Russia, where they communicate with members of the Indian spiritual culture, the Indians. Russian indianists also meet annually on their Pow Wow. The spectacle is, frankly, stunning: a glade with dozens of tipi (wigwams), all people are dressed in beaded Indian leather, some on horseback with bows, tomahawks and painted faces. Indian dances and singing under the beats of a tambourine. This even in the movie you will not see! But without an invitation, you should not come there - the Indians (albeit the Russians) are a stern people.

Indians are called Native Americans. They really keep their roots, pass them on to the next generations. In their tradition, the veneration of ancestors is not just a tribute to previous generations, but a direct living connection with the spirits of ancestors, to whom they constantly turn for help, support and advice. The Indian knows that the ancestors live in him, and he lives in descendants. Therefore, for him there is no death, he

perceives a single stream of life of his own kind, identifying himself with him, and not with a separate period of time of magnitude into life. Indians have a different attitude to “death” from that adopted in the “white” civilization. The same excellent attitude among the Indians and to the birth. For example, in some tribes, a child’s birthday is considered not the day of his physical birth, but the day on which the child first laughed. The one who saw it and gives the child a name. The name is given in this way - a person goes out and looks at what the Great Spirit says to him through Nature: Dancing Coyote, Two Bears (the name of my friend), or Playing the Wind.

Once a white American woman asked me: “Do you have indigenous people in Russia?” “Yes, I answered with pride — for example, I!” Then, when I returned home, to my northern village, the ecological settlement Grishino, I thought: “What kind of native I am? Where are my roots? ”Fortunately, our family memory is still strong and we can revive and strengthen our roots, our connection with our ancestors, traditions, family. This is happening now in Russian ecovillages, reviving the lost connection of Man and Nature, the place of which was determined by our ancestors: Human nature.

The Mystery of the Phaistos Disc

The island of Crete since the XV century attracted travelers with its ancient buildings located in its various parts. The first archaeological excavations here were carried out in 1876 by the Spanish Consul M. Kalokerinos.

He excavated near the city of Heraklion the ruins of a huge building. American scientist W. Steelman studied them in 1881. It turned out to be the famous Labyrinth. Since 1884, an Italian expedition of archaeologists began working on the island, with which many discoveries were made. After the liberation of the island of Crete in 1898 from the two hundred years Ottoman rule, its archaeological research unfolded on a large scale. Special merit in this belongs to the outstanding English scholar Sir Arthur Evans, who devoted more than 30 years of his life to the study of the ancient history of the island. He laid the foundations for the periodization of the Cretan culture of the Bronze Age, carried out a great work on the scientific systematization of the many and varied monuments of material culture and ancient writing. The culture discovered by him was called Minoan and existed in 2800-1100 BC. Minoan, it is named after the legendary ruler of the island - Minos (or his dynasty), whose activities are known to us from the myths that have come down to us about Icarus and Dedal, the Minotaur, Theseus and Ariadne and others.

THREE VARIETY OF WRITTEN

In antiquity, Crete was a powerful maritime state. Being located in the center of the Mediterranean Sea, he occupied a dominant position on the lines of communication between Asia Minor, the Balkans and Egypt - the centers of ancient civilizations. The Minoan culture was the most ancient culture of Europe, which had a great influence on the civilizations of later Ancient Greece and Rome. That is why such close attention was paid by scientists to the study of the island of Crete and, in particular, to the Minoans written records, which were found in many during excavations.

The inscriptions found on the island belonged to three types of writing, successively replacing each other. The first was the hieroglyphic writing, which had some analogies with the ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs, which is not surprising in its extensive contacts with Egypt. Then followed the so-called linear letter A and linear letter B. Linear letter A and B and hieroglyphics in their iconography represent the links of one evolutionary chain. Most of the inscriptions found on the island, made a linear letter B, which replaced the linear letter A in the middle of the XV century BC.

Scientists thought that deciphering one of them would allow others to read. For more than forty years they have been struggling with this problem. What only hypotheses did not appear when decoding the most ancient European inscriptions! Parallels were drawn with the writing of the Hittites and the Egyptians, the Basques and the Albanians, the Jews and the Sumerians, even the Slavs and the Finns. And only in 1952, Michael Ventris proved that the language of linear B was Greek. Thanks to the decoding of the linear letter B, the vast majority of the inscriptions were read. Read, but not understand. The language of the Minoans was different, and it turned out that if we could now write a phrase in Uzbek in Russian letters, we could have read it, but just could not understand. Linear A, more ancient than B, has not yet given any information, his

language was clearly non-Greek, and besides, all the documents we got on it were business or inventory records or lists. With its similarity to hieroglyphs, it was not difficult to understand. Thus, the most ancient texts in Europe, older than the poems of Homer by seven centuries, have so far remained unclear.

FESTIVE PROBLEM

One more inscription, the most mysterious and amazing, which the best minds are still puzzling over the problem of deciphering the writing of the island of Crete, brought particular urgency to the problem. This is the so-called Phaistos disc. It was found in 1908 by Italian archaeologists during the excavations of the royal palace in the city of Fest. In one of the rooms, along with it, there was a clay tablet covered with linear letter A. The found object was a small disk 15-16 cm in diameter and about 2 cm thick. On both sides it was covered with a spiral-shaped inscription imprinted carefully cut out from some kind of hard material. stamps. In the manufacture of this disc, the usual technique used in ancient times for the production of clay tablets was used - an inscription was applied to the raw clay, and then it was burned in a pottery kiln. The most interesting thing in the Phaistos disc was an inscription on it. She was not like the Cretan hieroglyphs, nor the linear letter A and b. It was a special kind of writing, hitherto unknown. The work on decoding the Phaistos disk began immediately after its discovery. Since the inscriptions on the disc were not similar to the Minoan letters, the scientists decided to begin a search for external similarity with the signs of other well-known writing systems. The signs of the Phaistos disc were compared with Egyptian hieroglyphs, they were attributed to some North African culture, similar to the ancient Egyptian.

A large group of scientists considered the disc of Festus to be a monument of Asia Minor culture, since the clay from which it was made was probably of Anatolian origin. Other scholars, on the contrary,

considered both clay and the letters themselves to be artifacts of local, Cretan origin. They tried to read them in Greek and Cyprian, but too few signs resembling the signs of the disk of Festus were found in other writing systems. From here came his translations, completely different in content and meaning. Their diversity is great - this is religious hymns, and ritual or dedicatory inscriptions, decrees on the distribution of land plots and instructions for the festival of sowing, reports of scouts or a brief historical chronicle, a victory anthem, a story about the death of Atlantis and much more. The discrepancies were so great that scientists came to the realization that all previously used methods are unacceptable for solving the fest problem. The most suitable is the combinatorial method, which involved all previously known methods in various combinations. However, he did not bring success. The combinatorial method allowed us to see on the Phaistos disc an enumeration of certain names of proper and certain toponyms. Proper names, obviously, were the names of the Minoan rulers, and toponyms designated objects of a geographically-territorial nature. From all this, it was concluded that this is nothing more than a sacred treaty or other religious-political act between the rulers of individual cities and the sovereign ruler, listing their names and possessions. Today it is the last interpretation of the inscription on the disk, and, as we see, it is no worse than others, unintelligible and obscure.

However, the use of the combinatorial method allowed us to draw certain conclusions, which can serve as a starting point for further research. So, it was noted that in the text there is often a sign in the form of a human head with a cockscomb and a kookoobrazny nose. This symbol of the man-cock was an attribute of the supreme deity in Crete and had a solar (solar) cult. It is associated with the image of the ruler. It was further determined that the writing of the Phaistos disc is not hieroglyphic or alphabetic. It is believed that she had a syllabic character. The researchers' attention was drawn to the fact that the total number of groups of signs supposedly taken for toponyms is 12. In this

connection, the archaic tradition of political unification in the form of twelve-figures in Ancient Greece is mentioned. Rejecting the logical reasoning of the authors of the combinatorial method, we have three established facts: the presence on the disk of the frequently repeated symbol of the sun, twelve stable groups of signs, and that these signs were neither letters nor hieroglyphs. Comparing these facts, we can draw an undoubted conclusion - the signs on the Phaistos disc are not written language and attempts to read them are meaningless. And the disc-shaped form itself spoke of its other purpose. For records always used rectangular plates and never - round. Then what is it?

HYPOTHESIS MIKHAILOVA

The theory of our compatriot, not a venerable scholar, not a linguist or a historian, but simply V. M. Mikhailov, a history lover from the town of Melenka, Vladimir region, answers this question with certainty. History knows many examples when amateurs coped with tasks that even the leading figures of science could not solve. Undoubtedly, this is one of those cases. VM Mikhailov, in studying the disc, attracted the mythology of ancient Greece, and it turned out that the disc depicted in certain combinations was nothing but a constellation! In the groups of characters located on the disk, he found the constellations of Leo, Taurus, Ophiuchus, Aries, Cepheus, Cassiopeia, Ursa Major, Capricorn and others. True, V. M. Mikhailov then abandoned this theory and, following the example of others, took up the useless task of solving the inscriptions on the disc, taking them for writing. But his hypothesis that the Phaistos disc is a stellar guide for mariners, causes respect and attention. The symbols of the Sun, the twelve signs of the zodiac, though not all of them are correctly attributed by Mikhailov, provide the opportunity for just such an interpretation of the Phaistos disc.

STAR GUIDE FOR SEAMS

Is it possible? Full Dated Phaistos disk time around 1600 BC. At this time, linear letter A was used on the island; Scientists who considered the disc as a monument of writing believed that the linear letter A and the letter B on the disc existed in parallel. The inscription on the disk had a religious character and was made by a written script specially written for such cases. Obviously, this conclusion does not hold water. Something similar was asserted in relation to the Egyptian hieroglyphs of Clitarch of Alexandria in the 3rd century AD, but his assertions have long been debunked by brilliant Champollon and his predecessors. Further, the time of disk production falls on the line of the Middle Minoan (2000-1600 BC) and the Late Minoan (1600-1100 BC) period of the island's history. Around 1700, 1660 and 1600 BC. e. destructive earthquakes occur on the island; as a result of the latter, the disk was buried under the ruins. Before these cataclysms, the island was inhabited by a non-Greek population, as already established, using a non-Greek linear letter A. The Greeks came to the island of Crete later, in the Late Renaissance period, and used the linear letter B. crafts, painting, agriculture and animal husbandry, fishing and hunting. The rulers of the island of Crete were subject to other islands of the Aegean Sea. The domination of the Cyprus fleet in the Mediterranean made Crete a world power. Under Pharaoh Thutmosis III (1525-1473 BC), Crete maintained diplomatic relations with Egypt on an equal footing. From Crete opened the sea routes in all directions of the world. His trade relations reached Mesopotamia in the east, the Pyrenees in the west, the Balkans in the north and Egypt in the south. In addition, the military expansion of the Cretans covered the coast of Central Greece (the siege of Megara), Attica (military subordination of Athens), Sicily (troops near the city of Kamika), Syria (military settlements). Indonemei, grandson of the legendary king Minos, fought beneath the walls of Troy. Undoubtedly, such wide connections of the island of Crete with other lands, carried out due to its geographical position exclusively by sea, have developed certain skills and traditions from the Cypriot navigators.

In antiquity, sea navigation was carried out, as a rule, in the form of the coast, without access to the open sea. This orientation of the ancient sailors is known to us from the so-called “periplas” that has come down to us - descriptions of the coastline, islands, estuaries, special features on the banks, distances between individual geographic points, wind directions and sea currents, as well as harbors and cities. In essence, they were lotions, giving navigators valuable information about the conditions of navigation in certain waters. The Bipini Pryptyania periplae, the Paplagony periplle and the complete Periple of Euxenicus Pontus (the Black Sea) of Arrian in 134 AD are known. The information contained in it, as scientists believe, has accumulated since the end of the IV century BC. In the Middle Ages, such shipments were called “portulans” (literally, from port to port). Here, all previously known information was displayed on the parchment in the form of a map.

Is not, therefore, the mysterious disc of Festus a portulan of the Minoan sailors? The greatest mariners from the island of Crete made their voyages not only along the coastal strip, but also crossed the seas. And here another orientation was needed - namely, according to the Sun and the stars. The twelve signs of the zodiac, plus the symbol of the sun on the disk, undoubtedly indicate this. That figure 12 in ancient times was called "the system of 12 winds." She was known in Babylon, Ancient Egypt, India and China. There they divided the zodiacal circle into twelve sectors for orientation by the stars. Scientists concluded that the “system of 12 winds” existed even before the heyday of Babylon and was the heir of more ancient cultures.

Thus, with a certain degree of confidence, it can be argued that the Phaistos disk is nothing more than a stellar guide for Minoan sailors of the 2nd millennium BC. The combination of the signs of the zodiac and the Sun, along with other symbols on the disk, gave them the opportunity in the open sea to make certain changes in the ship's course according to a certain program and reach the desired place, checking with the stars on

the signs on the disk. Perhaps the current experts in navigation and astronomy will be able to establish the route of ships, marked on the disk.

It is appropriate to recall that in 1901 an excavator among the wreckage of the Greek galleys, which sank near the island of Antikyret in the 1st century BC, was discovered a mysterious metal device with gear transmission. At the National Museum of Athens, it was reviewed by Professor Derek de Sola of Yale University. He found that it was a difficult device for observing the stars. Charles Hapgud in his book "Maps of the Sea Kings" calls this device the oldest computer. The discovery of this computer on the gallery showed that the observations of the stars during the voyage were not carried out with the help of an eye meter, but with the help of this device. It would be tempting to assume that the Phaistos disk was also part of such a device, something harmful to the modern magnetic or laser disk in a computer. Since the signs on the disk were in-depth, the presence of gear transmission made it possible to combine it with the convex matrix of the machine and thus follow the route previously laid in this primitive computer.

The path to the wealth of John D. Rockefeller

John D. Rockefeller (1839–1937) is an American entrepreneur and multimillionaire, a man whose name has become a symbol of wealth. He was hardworking, purposeful and devout, partners called him the devil.

The workers' wives frightened their children: "Don't cry, or Rockefeller will take you away!" The paradox was that the richest man in the world was most proud of his impeccable morality.

John Davison Rockefeller was born July 8, 1839 in the state of New York. It was mainly his mother who was engaged in upbringing, an

ardent Baptist. “She and the priest from my early years inspired me to work and save,” Rockefeller later recalled. Business was part of family education. In early childhood, John bought a pound of candy, divided it into small groups and sold his own sisters at a premium. At seven, he sold his turkeys to neighbors, and he earned $ 50 from his neighbor at 7% per annum.

“It was a very quiet boy,” one of the townspeople recalled many years later, “he always thought.” From the side, John looked absent-minded: it seemed that the child was constantly beating on some insoluble problem. The impression was deceptive - the boy was distinguished by a tenacious memory, a death grip and unshakable calmness: playing checkers, he harassed his partners, thinking about each move for half an hour. John Davison Rockefeller’s stern, dry-skinned face and his boyish-lacking eyes really frightened those around him.

Few knew the other, human side of his nature. John Davison Rockefeller hid his inherent feelings to the furthest pocket and fastened it with all the buttons. Meanwhile, he was a sensitive boy: when his sister died, John ran into the backyard, rushed to the ground and lay there all day. Yes, and having matured, Rockefeller did not become such a monster, as he was portrayed: once he asked about a classmate that he once liked (just liked it — he was a moral young man); Upon learning that she was widowed and in trouble, the owner of Standard Oil immediately assigned her a pension. It is almost impossible to judge what he really was: all thoughts, all feelings, all desires Rockefeller subordinated to one great goal - be sure to get rich.

Rockefeller School has not graduated. At 16, with a three-month accounting course, he began to look for work in Cleveland, where his family then lived. After six weeks of searching, he settled down as an assistant accountant at the Hewitt & Tuttle trading company. At first he was paid $ 17 per month, and then $ 25. Receiving them, John felt guilty,

finding the reward too high. In order not to waste a cent, the thrifty Rockefeller from the first paycheck bought a small ledger, where he wrote down all his expenses, and carefully kept it all his life. But this was his first and last job for hire. At age 18, John D. Rockefeller became the junior partner of the merchant Maurice Clark.

Becoming on the feet of the new company helped the American Civil War of 1861-1865. The belligerent armies generously paid for the necessary things, and the partners supplied them with flour, pork and salt. By the end of the war in the state of Pennsylvania, near Cleveland, oil deposits were discovered, and the city was in the center of the oil rush. By 1864, Clark and Rockefeller were already engaged in full Pennsylvania oil. A year later, Rockefeller decided to focus only on the oil business, but Clark was against it. Then, for $ 72,500, John bought his share from a partner and plunged into oil.

In 1870 he created "Standard Oil". Together with a friend and business partner, Henry Flagler, he began to collect scattered oil producing and refining enterprises into a single powerful oil trust. Competitors could not resist him; Rockefeller put them before a choice: either to unite with him, or ruin. If the beliefs did not act, the dirtiest methods were used. For example, Standard Oil reduced prices on a competitor’s local market, forcing it to operate at a loss. Or Rockefeller sought to stop the supply of oil to recalcitrant processors. For this, dummy firms were used, which were actually part of the Standard Oil group. Many processors did not even realize that the local rivals putting pressure on them were actually part of the growing Rockefeller Empire.

For the success of such operations, they were kept in the strictest confidence. Standard Oil agents exchanged encrypted dispatches with the parent company. Even visitors to Standard Oil management should not have seen each other, the Company used an extensive system of industrial espionage to gather information about competitors and market

conditions. The Standard Oil file contained information on virtually every oil buyer in the country, on the use of each barrel sold by independent dealers, and even on where each grocer from the Isle of Man to California buys kerosene.

By 1879, the "war of conquest" was actually over. Standard Oil controlled 90% of US refining capacity. Rockefeller himself met this victory impassively - as an obvious inevitability.

In 1890, the Sherman Antitrust Act was adopted, aimed at combating monopolies. Until 1911, Rockefeller and his partners were able to circumvent this law, but then Standard Oil was divided into thirty-four companies (almost all of today's major American oil-producing companies are counting their history from Standard Oil).

Personal life

Rockefeller was married to Laura Celestine Spelman, whom he met while still a student. Pious, like her husband, teacher Laura Spelman, however, had a practical mindset. Rockefeller once remarked: "Without her advice, I would have remained a poor man."

Biographers write that Rockefeller, with all his might, taught children to work, modesty and unpretentiousness. John created a kind of market economy at home: he appointed his daughter Laura a “director” and told the children to keep detailed account books. Each child received a few cents for a dead fly, for sharpening a pencil, for an hour of practicing music, for the day of abstinence from candy. Each of the children had their own garden beds in the garden, where weed cleaning work also had its price. But for being late for breakfast, the little Rockefellers were fined.

Rockefeller condition

In 1917, the personal wealth of John Davison Rockefeller was estimated at between $ 900 million and $ 1 billion, which was 2.5% of the then GDP of the United States. In modern terms, Rockefeller owned about $ 150 billion. Until now, he remains the richest man in the world. By the end of his life, Rockefeller, in addition to shares in each of its 32 subsidiaries, Standard Oil owned 16 railway and six steelmaking companies, nine banks, six real estate companies, nine realtor companies by firms and three orange groves, the Standard Oil holdings in 1903 covered about 400 enterprises, 90 thousand miles of pipelines, 10 thousand railway tanks, 60 ocean tankers, 150 river steamers. The company transported and processed more than 80% of the oil produced in the United States. The share of Standard Oil in world oil trade exceeded 70%.

Rockefeller donations for his life exceeded $ 500 million. Of these, the University of Chicago received about $ 80 million, and the Baptist church received at least $ 100 million. Also, John D. Rockefeller created and financed the New York Institute for Medical Research, the General Education Council and the Rockefeller Foundation.

Secrets of Empress Elizabeth

She slipped inaudible shadow in Russian history, leaving a barely perceptible trace. Then almost two centuries of oblivion followed, and only now did the interest in this woman re-awaken, “whose whole life, covered by the imperial purple, was one insult”

(D. Herzen).

Princess Louise Maria August Baden-Badenskaya arrived in St.

Petersburg in October 1792 as the bride of the beloved grandson of Catherine Catherine - Grand Duke Alexander Pavlovich. The Empress found the charming German princess a suitable candidate for the future Russian emperor.

The spat began with the spouses immediately after the marriage vows were pronounced. At times they had to reconcile with the maid of honor to Elizabeth. In addition, the crown prince could not get pregnant. The situation took a tragic turn when, in 1796, her mother-in-law, Alexander's mother, Maria Fedorovna, gave birth to her son Nicholas.

The reason for the final break was the scandal associated with Plato Zubov, the favorite of the elderly Catherine. The treacherous court handsome openedly fascinated by the charming crown prince and began to look after her in front of everyone. As a result, Catherine was forced to intervene in the amorous affairs of her favorite, restraining herself in the most rigid form.

Whose Maria?

Against the background of mutual cooling, Elizabeth in 1799 gives birth to a long-awaited child - daughter Maria. And immediately rumors spread that the child was not from Alexander. As a potential father was called the Polish prince Adam Czartoryski, who in 1795 hovered around the crowned couple.

Gossip was immediately brought to the ears of Emperor Pavel, and he ordered to send the "overbearing" Czartoryski to Italy as envoy to the court of the Sardinian king, and Elizabeth declared a boycott and did not speak to her for three months.

In 1800, Elizabeth comprehends the first terrible grief from a succession of future misfortunes - her daughter Mary dies, having not

lived even two years. From now on, death will follow Elizabeth on her heels.

On March 11, 1801, conspirators assassinated Emperor Paul. The heir, upon hearing that his father was dead, fainted. Having become an inconsolable widow, Maria Feodorovna immediately demanded the imperial crown, which had just rolled off her husband's head. The Imperial Guard rushed into the castle to deal with the killers. Count Palen, one of the main organizers of the conspiracy, persuaded the sobbing heir to show firmness and appear to the people in order to convince the agitated public that from now on everything would be "as with grandmother."

And only Elizabeth discovered amazing courage and sanity, acting as a parliamentary member between the factions and persuading her husband to become hysterical to begin to reign.

She was crowned king on September 15, 1801. But, having become an empress, she did not become happier. At this time, her dear husband, Alexander, begins to cohabit with maid of honor Maria Naryshkina, from which she will have two children. Naryshkina behaved defiantly towards the empress, openly bragging to the woman who had lost her child of her pregnancy.

DAUGHTER TWO - WHOSE?

Another secret of Elizabeth is connected with the name of the beautiful staff captain of the Cavalry Guard Regiment, Alexei Okhotnikov, with whom she had an affair in 1805. In 1806, she again waited for the child and shone with happiness.

However, on the eve of her birth, the Hunters were killed with a knife when leaving the theater. The murderer was never found, but they

whispered that the emperor's brother, Grand Duke Constantine, had sent the mercenary, allegedly hopelessly in love with his brother's wife and jealous of Okhotnikov.

Elizabeth gave birth to another daughter, also named Elizabeth. And again the rumors are spreading that the child is not from Alexander, but from a dead horse guard. After the death of Elizabeth, in her things a casket was really found, where Okhotnikov's letters to the empress were kept, in which he called her his little wife, and also the portrait of little Lizanka was kept.

The blows of fate followed one after the other. In 1808, Lizanka died at the age of one and a half years. The unhappy mother spent four days without a sleep, sleeping by her dead daughter's bed, until she was transferred to the Neva Monastery. This terrible grief thoroughly undermined the empress's fragile health, and Alexander at this time again courted the maid of honor to Naryshkin ...

POET'S LOVE

After a series of terrible losses, Elizabeth chose Tsarskoye Selo as the place of her mournful solitude, making, according to P. Vyazemsky, "a poetic and mysterious tradition." It was there that the young student Alexander Pushkin saw her.

Among some Pushkin scholars there is a perception that it was Elizabeth who became the secret muse of the great poet. Evidence of this can be found in the work of Alexander Sergeevich. The poet has always been credited with Ekaterina Bakunina's hobby during high school, but, in fact, Alexander Pushkin was in love with a completely different lady. He wrote:

"My light, my good genius,

The subject of my love
And the shine of the eyes of heaven ...
And the graces are pretty,
And the snow of her face ... ".

But, as you know, Katenka Bakunin was a brown-eyed, dark-skinned woman, and not a blue-eyed pale vision at all. This description corresponds precisely to the empress Elizabeth, who has thrashed from suffering.

There could be no Bakunin and "sweet N" in one of the poet's diaries from 1815. There Alexander Pushkin wrote: “How sweet she was! Like a black dress stuck to cute N ... ". If this is Bakunin, then it is very strange that a young, cheerful girl was dressed in a black dress, not being in mourning. But, most importantly, Katenka Bakunin visited her brother at the Lyceum in 1816, and the record refers to November 29, 1815. On November 28, Elizaveta Alekseevna, who was in mourning for her sister's husband at that time, came to Tsarskoye Selo (hence the black dress).

CASES COVERED

In the war of 1812, the empress took an active part of a purely female sense. On her initiative, a female patriotic society emerges, occupying the wounded, creating orphanages and state-run schools for the education of the children of the deceased officers.

In 1812, the Orphan School was created, and with it the House of diligence for the maintenance and training at public expense by the daughters of officers who died in the war. The Empress personally took care of this institution, and later it became known as the Elizabethan Institute.

Elizabeth conducted most of the charitable affairs in secret, spending almost all her personal funds for noble purposes (by the way, she refused the million she owed as the Empress, taking only 200,000, of which she left only 15, and all the rest went to the needy).

In 1817, the Empress met the historian Nikolai Karamzin, with whom she had a very trusting relationship. She reads aloud to her historian her personal diary, which she began to keep from the moment she arrived in Russia. She will bequeath the diary to the historian, but Karamzin died two weeks after her death, and the diary fell into the hands of Emperor Nicholas, who immediately burned him, like all other papers, so that they could not "damage the empress's reputation."

MYSTERIOUS DEATH

The rapprochement between Elizabeth and Alexander began twenty years later, and the cause, in many respects, was Elizabeth's illness: her heart was greatly disturbed, and in 1810 heart attacks began to torment her. By 1825, there was a threat to her life.

Perhaps, at the end of his life, the emperor was stirred up by some unknown feeling towards his abandoned wife. He was seriously concerned about the health of his wife. Alexander decides to take his wife to Taganrog. He arrived in Taganrog ten days earlier to prepare everything for the arrival of his wife. Elizabeth wrote that the emperor was so caring that he made the route himself and, passing on, made all the necessary orders, as a result of which she did not experience the move.

Elizabeth was happy, having left the disgraceful Petersburg: “No visits, no notes to answer, no one who would constantly distract on trifles.”

In Taganrog, Alexander and Elizabeth healed a simple life, enjoying the belated family happiness. It, alas, did not last long. At the invitation of M.S. Vorontsov Alexander traveled to the Crimea. From there he returned sick. Until the last minute of his life, Elizabeth was caring for him. She closed his eyes.

It is difficult to describe what poor Elizabeth experienced when the emperor let out his last breath. Her letters to her mother breathe with deadly despair: “What should I do with my will, which was subordinate to him, what should I do with the life that I was ready to devote to him? Mom, mom, what to do, how to be? Ahead of the dark..."

The emperor's body was sent to Petersburg, and Elizabeth remained in Taganrog until the end of April 1826, because her state of health precluded any possibility of relocation.

Only on April 22, she left the fateful Taganrog. But I drove only to Belev. Elizaveta Alekseevna died on the night of May 3, 1826. She left her life as quietly as she lived. However, the fact that nobody saw her dead in St. Petersburg gave rise to all kinds of conjectures. It was rumored that the empress did not die in Beleva, but went to Syrkov monastery under the name of the Faith of the Silent and lived for many more years, having died in 1861. It was also pointed out that the cell of Vera Molchalnitsy in appearance would coincide with the Tomsk cell of the famous old man Fedor Kuzmich, whom many considered to be the hiding emperor Alexander I.

Behind the Golden Fleece

The story of the journey of the Argonauts is the first Greek myth, which tells of a long maritime voyage beyond the borders of the Greek world. It was headed by Jason, a contemporary of Hercules and Theseus.

This event can be attributed to about the XIII century BC, 20-25 years before the Trojan War.

Jason was the son of Aeson, king of the town of Polk in Thessaly. When his uncle Pelias seized power, little Jason had to hide. Reaching the age of twenty, he came to Pelius and demanded the return of the kingdom that belonged to him legally. Pelias promised to do this on the condition that the young man would extract and bring him the Golden Fleece from Colchis.

The task posed by the cunning and cruel Pelius was clearly impracticable. At that time, the Greeks usually sailed across the Mediterranean Sea and did not know well what was outside. And it was to sail to the eastern part of the Black Sea. Kolkhida occupies the territory of the same lowland in the coastal part of modern Abkhazia and Western Georgia.

There was no need to go for the Golden Fleece on such a long journey. Golden sand met in Greece. Washed it with the help of lamb skins, which were then burned and got a gold bar.

ON THE COUNTY OYKUMEN

Let us return, however, to our myth. Deciding to sail to Colchis, Jason, with the help of the goddess Athena, built a ship that he hadn’t had before. Gathered from all over Greece, the most famous heroes and craftsmen. Among them were the famous shipbuilder Arg (ship was named after him), the best helmsman of Hellas Typhis, the fastest runner of that time Eufem from Tenar, the twins Castor and Pollux, the most skilled riders and fist fighters, the sons of the north wind Boreya brothers Calaid and Zet. The latter could even fly. The great hero of Greece Hercules and the sweet-voiced singer Orpheus also boarded the ship.

The first stop the Argonauts made on the island of Lemnos. It turned out that only women live there. A year ago, they killed all their men for treason, and therefore our travelers were quickly taken home. Jason, naturally, went to the queen of the island. Men quickly forgot about the purpose of their journey. And only Hercules with great difficulty managed to return the Argonauts to the ship and continue the journey.

Further sailed only at night, because the kings of Troy did not let other ships into their waters. True, the Hellespont (Dardanelles) passed safely and entered the Sea of Marmara. Near the city of Kizik in Phrygia, travelers had to fight the six-armed giants, who bombarded passing ships with fragments of rocks. With the help of Hercules, the giants were killed. And then the gods gave Hercules another order - and he left the Argonauts.

Ahead was the Bosphorus, the most dangerous part of the road. Blind soothsayer Finay told the mariners how to safely walk through it, and most importantly, just before going out to the Black Sea (Pont Evksinsky) to overcome the converging and diverging rocks of the Symplegade. On the advice of the elder, Jason sent the pigeon forward, and the helmsman Tifis, following the bird, managed to lead the ship between the rocks.

Now the Argonauts, moving along the Black Sea coast of modern Turkey, passed the country of the Amazons and approached the Caucasian mountains. There they noticed a huge flying eagle and heard loud moans. This eagle, at the behest of Zeus, tormented Prometheus chained to the rock. Later, Hercules will kill this eagle and free Prometheus from the shackles...

In colchis

Argo safely entered the mouth of the Phasis River (Rioni) and stopped at the town of Ey, the capital of the Kingdom of Colchis. Placed to Jason, the goddesses Athena and Hera asked Aphrodite to send Eros to light in the heart of Medea, the daughter of the Colchian king, the love of a hero. And when Jason and his companions appeared in the palace of the local king, Eeta, Medea was already burning with passion for the leader of the Argonauts.

Jason offered the king to give him the golden fleece in exchange for helping him in his war with hostile neighbors. However, the king was not going to part with his treasure. He suggested to Jason to harness two fire-breathing bulls in a plow, plow the field and sow it with dragon's teeth. From these teeth will grow warriors, which Jason had to defeat. All this had to be done in one day. Only then did the king agree to give the Golden Fleece.

Such a test was beyond the power of even the famous Greek heroes. Using her magical abilities, Medea helped the stranger in this feat. And then Jason and Medea put the dragon in charge, guarding the golden fleece, and, seizing the precious burden, fled from the capital.

Russian researcher I.V. Mashnikov, the author of the book Deciphered Secrets of Ancient Myths, put forward the idea that the Argonauts floated to Colchis not for gold, but ... for linen cloth. Rich Greek women were very fond of flax garments. Flax was in Greece, but in the local climate it turned out short, with short fibers. Long-fiber flax was brought to Hellas from Egypt and from somewhere else from the East.

Such fabrics cost very much. It is estimated that one gram of flax cost as much as 13 grams of gold. A thin linen fabric was even more expensive. For such a treasure could go on such a long journey.

Some details of the Argonauts myth seem to support this hypothesis. For some reason, the Golden Fleece had to be soaked in a mountain river for two days. If in the myth we are talking about lamb skin, this period is incomprehensible. The longer you hold the skin in running water, the more gold particles there will get. But for soaking flax such a period is just needed.

Another curious detail. Capturing the Golden Fleece, Jason hid it under his shirt. It is unlikely that a large heavy skin full of golden sand could be put in there. A roll of fine linen fabric could be hidden like that.

I.V. Mashnikov believes that the Argonauts sought not so much to bring linen fabric from Colchis. They needed to find out how such flax is grown, how this extraordinary material is obtained from it. In ancient times, such secrets of production were usually kept by the priests. The royal daughter Medea was a priestess of the temple of the goddess Hecate, and perhaps she knew these secrets. Because Jason and Medea took away secretly from his father.

The King of Colchis immediately blocked the passage to the Black Sea straits with his ships. However, the Argonauts moved in another way. They climbed up the Istra (Danube) and along its tributaries reached the Adriatic Sea.

The myth of the Argonauts was very popular in ancient times. Many ceramics with images of individual episodes of this legendary journey have come down to us. Apollonius of Rhodes in the III century BC. O., working in the famous Library of Alexandria, collected a lot of material on this myth and wrote the poem "Argonautika", which, fortunately, reached us.

ROUTE OF ARGONAVTS

In the summer of 1984, the Irishman Tim Severin, guided by the content of the poem "Argonavtika", repeated the path from Greece to Abkhazia. For this purpose, he built a copy of the Greek ship of the Bronze Age, however, somewhat smaller than the "Argo".

The Tim Severin expedition covered a distance of 1,500 nautical miles, although few experts believed that it was possible to sail successfully on such a primitive vessel. Severin did not seek to confirm the veracity of the myth, the very fact of the existence of Jason and the swimming of the Argonauts. It was important for him to prove something else: thirty-three centuries ago, the ancient Greeks on a small ship could, in principle, pass this way.

It is known that the Greeks began the colonization of the Black Sea in the VII century BC. e. The bold experiment of the Irishman showed that even five centuries before the Greeks had penetrated the Black Sea, as a result, a fascinating heroic epic was born, which lives for the fourth millennium.

Ancient underground cities

It so happened that there were no white spots on the map of the Earth for a long time. But tourists who give something such, as you

want. Perhaps those who are interested in something unusual and unknown go not on the surface of the earth, but, for a change, in its depths? After all, there is also the underworld, and its cities are scattered around the planet in countless numbers.

After all, even in the ancient world, people began to build underground cities and passages. This method allowed us to avoid bloody, cruel wars, which at all times brought down human destinies and destroyed everything in its path with a ruthless wave. So, going underground, people was created their culture, their language, customs and rules of conduct.

When at the beginning of the twentieth century, American scientists took a great interest in this topic and, according to historical records, went to search for mysterious cities and still found them in South America, they were amazed at how well the buildings of antiquity were built.

Hiding among the forests and mountains, they did not attract attention. The entrance, as a rule, was masterfully disguised, and only knowledgeable people could determine by some signs that the entrance to the mysterious dungeon begins in one place or another.

Then the stairs went down the stairs hundreds of meters down, and after going down, you had to go through the maze of endless galleries. It is amazing that after long centuries, the walls have remained almost immaculate, pristine condition, they are smooth, as if polished, the ceilings are smooth, and it seems that they are covered with some kind of composition that prevents the occurrence of mold and makes the soil stronger, protecting it from collapses.

From time to time there are ventilation shafts. There are small compartments and huge rooms. Entire civilizations lived here, until

unknown events evicted them from their quiet refuge ...

Many of these underground shelters have become recognized tourist sites, and for some of them we offer to take a walk today.

At the same time, every one of the underground cities discovered today can shake its scale. Therefore, you can start a story about these underground settlements with any example.

Sahara Desert. Deep beneath it, far below the sands, are tunnels about five thousand years old. They are cut down in the rock and represent a complex system of communications, the total length of which is 1600 kilometers.

The unknown people who created this miracle, pulled 20 million cubic meters of stone to the surface of the earth! The task is hardly feasible even for modern technology.

Paris. The network of tunnels and galleries under it reaches 300 kilometers. Their construction was completed much earlier than our era, but only in the Middle Ages did Parisians go down into the catacombs to bury the dead in them.

Today on the Paris catacombs lead tours, which invariably attract the attention of all who are interested in something unusual.

Rome. Local dungeons were also used for numerous burials. Their construction is the same as the Paris, was completed before the beginning of our era.

Tunnels and galleries are cut down in volcanic tuff and they stretch for 500 kilometers. In total, under Rome there are more than 40 independent catacombs.

But Naples left Rome far behind: there are more than 700 catacombs there! Many of them are equipped with special rooms for storing water and food. During World War II, these catacombs were ideally suited as air-raid shelters. The age of them is unthinkable - 6.5 thousand years!

The Maltese Hypogeum is also, in principle, not young. It is carved in solid granite between 3200 and 2900 BC. Its true length is quite difficult to establish, because it goes into the depths of the rock on several floors, as if it were a modern high-rise in reverse.

Under our nearest neighbor, Turkey, entire cities are hiding. They stretch for miles and go deep into several tiers. For example, under the village Derinkuyu city occupies five floors. The lower floor can accommodate 10 thousand people, and only in the premises can be up to 300 thousand people.

To imagine this colossal number, take, for example, Ganja. Its population is about 322 thousand people. And this means that all of Ganja can be settled in the underground city of Derinkuyu.

Every corner of this underground city is equipped with ventilation. Archaeologists are aware of 52 ventilation shafts (the deepest of them is 85 meters) and 15,000 exits to the city.

And this list of underground cities or catacombs can go on and on. India, Jordan, Sicily, England, Belgium, Korea, Czech Republic, Germany, Syria, Palestine...

Only in the territory of the former Soviet Union there are more than two and a half thousand ancient catacombs. This is the Crimea, and Georgia, and our catacombs...

However, a special place is occupied by the catacombs of Zaporozhye. So, in the tract Stone Grave the first dungeons were built in the 14th millennium BC! Roman catacombs with their history of 6.5 thousand years - just babies compared to the Zaporozhye!

These catacombs can also be visited - there are regular tours. Of course, not so many people know about them as about the Turkish, where hundreds of thousands of tourists come every year.

In this case, it would be wrong to think that the catacombs are primitive caves. In no case! The complexity of the underground architecture is illustrated by the following example.

In 1960, the Abkhaz Museum undertook work on the transport of one underground dolmen from Esheri to Sukhumi. (Yes, dolmens are also underground!) First, they removed the "roof" - the covering stone slab. The crane could not stand the cables.

I had to act with two cranes. They still pulled out a stone monolith to the surface, and the matter remained — to lift it onto the truck. No matter how hard the loaders tried, the stove did not yield.

Only a year later, the dolmen completely moved into the courtyard of the museum, but this time it was a failure. The plates could not fit into the grooves, although initially they were in contact with each other with an accuracy of tenths of a millimeter. The question arises: how did the ancient builders of these cult mystical structures deal with it?!

Or take the catacombs in the Peruvian Andes. Discovered them even the XVI century Francisco Pizarro, and serious studies were conducted in 1971.

It turned out that the underground passages are lined with massive blocks, the surface of which covers a corrugated pattern.

The fact is that these tunnels are cut in the rocks at an altitude of 6770 meters and lead them to the ocean at an angle of 14 degrees. In other words, the ancient builders even took care to avoid slipping when passing through the tunnels.

Little of! Huge stone doors were found in these catacombs. With all their weight and seeming clumsiness, they closed completely tightly and moved almost without effort by one person.

Today, these catacombs are also open to the public. The Peruvian authorities are not particularly eager to advertise such facilities.

But not only were the builders of antiquity fond of underground cities, in the twentieth century they renewed this technology. The fact that Moscow is dotted with underground metro stations is well known to everyone, but few know that the abandoned city is located here.

In the 70s, an order was issued to build a safe haven for elite people, or more precisely, for the government. The dungeon was supposed to save them in the event of an atomic war or some other danger.

Of course, the rulers were not going to think about the rest of the common people, the main thing is to protect themselves. The dungeon today is in an abandoned state, but at the moment it is a good shelter, consisting of a series of bunkers, everything is thought out here so that people can feel as comfortable as possible for a long time.

Of course, there are no official trips there, but cunning diggers will take you anywhere - just pay.

About the same city, as near Moscow, there is also near Beijing. Entrance to it at first glance seems to be either a small shop, or someone's poor house. It is no different from standing nearby, and who would have thought that a whole underground city was hiding here!

Entering this small house and passing through a series of hidden doors, hidden and disguised in the walls, you find yourself in a dungeon. It is the same as Moscow, goes for kilometers into the distance and is intended solely for VIP-persons.

There is another underground city in the world, Setenil de las Bodegas, it is located in Spain. But its difference from the above described is that the city is not deserted, but lives its own life and accommodates in its possession more than 3 thousand people.

The city is embedded in a huge rock, so over many houses there was an amazing mountain shed that hides from the rain and strong wind, which is often found in these parts.

At the time of ancient Rome, this place served as a defensive fortress, people could feel calm under the protection of powerful, impenetrable, mountain walls.

Today, this natural feature has made the town popular with tourists, lovers of adventure and vivid impressions.

Finally, it's time to say about Ecuador. The find made there is currently classified and no foreigners have access to it. So for tourists it is closed, but to know about it is interesting in any case.

Despite the fact that the information is classified, in the second half of the twentieth century, the Anglo-Ecuadorian expedition managed to

make the facts available to the entire world, which hardly fit in the head.

So, in 1965, in the province of Morona-Santiago, the Argentinean Juan Moricch discovered an underground city consisting of tunnels and galleries, which stretch for several hundred kilometers.

The entrance to the city is carved into the rock and is large enough for a lorry to enter (!). The stone walls of the dungeons are covered with strange glazes, as if once they had been exposed to ultra high temperature processing.

Already at the entrance there are placers of metal and stone figurines depicting various animals. If you advance to the very depths, then a gallery of large figures cast in gold will appear to your eyes.

The further you go, the more often there will be huge halls. In one of the halls there is a library. It contains thousands of metal plates, speckled by writing in an unknown language.

The heart of this underground city is the hall, exceeding in size the average largest football field. In the center of the hall there is a bulky table and seven high thrones. The material, from which they are made, is not found on earth. By external appearance, it is like something between a stone and plastic.

The most important statement of the expedition was the following words: the dungeons are inhabited...

We must admit that we know very little about our planet and life on it. Humanity cannot be presumptuous. Underground cities so far only suggest assumptions and conjectures.

Scientists cautiously suggest that the catacombs were built to save

human civilization from the threat from the air. Whether humanity was waiting for the coming of the all-destroying comet, or...

One way or another, the history of great underground construction projects cannot but stir the minds. Especially the minds of tourists, who will penetrate into the mysterious underground city of Ecuador in the near future.

Mystery of the Terteri tablets

In 1961, the scientific world spread the news of the archaeological sensation. No, the thunder of the great discovery sounded not from Egypt or Mesopotamia. An unexpected find was found in Transylvania, in the small Romanian village of Terteria.

What struck the erudite men of the science of antiquities? Perhaps scientists stumbled upon a rich burial like the tomb of Tutankhamen? Or appeared before them a masterpiece of ancient art? Nothing like this.

Three tiny clay tables caused general excitement. For they were speckled with mysterious patterned signs, strikingly reminiscent (as noted by the author of the outstanding discovery, the Romanian archaeologist N. Vlasse himself) of the Sumerian pictographic writing of the end of the 4th millennium BC. e.

But archaeologists were waiting for another surprise. The plates found were 1000 years older than the Sumerian ones! It remained only to wonder: how almost 7 thousand years ago, far beyond the glorified ancient Eastern civilizations, where it was not expected at all, the oldest letter (to this day) in the history of mankind turned out to be?

Sumerians in Transylvania?

In 1965, German Sumerologist Adam Falkenshtein suggested that writing originated in Terteria under the influence of Sumer. M. S. Khud objected to him, arguing that the Terteri tablets had nothing to do with writing. He claimed that the Sumerian merchants had once visited Transylvania, and that was their tablet and were copied by the natives. Of course, the meaning of the tablets was not understandable to the Terteriys, nevertheless, this did not prevent them from using them in religious rites.

There is no dispute, the ideas of Hood and Falkenstein are original, but there are also weak points in them. How to explain the gap in the whole millennium between the appearance of the Terteri and Sumerian tablets? And is it possible to copy something that does not exist yet? Other experts associated terteri script with Crete, but here the failure in time reaches already two thousand years. The discovery of N. Vlass and with us is not left without attention. On the instructions of the doctor of historical sciences T.S. Passek, a young archaeologist V. Titov investigated the question of the presence of the Sumerians in Transylvania. Alas, they did not come to a common opinion about the essence of the Terteri mystery. However, the expert-sumerologist A.

Kifishin, after analyzing the accumulated material, came to the following conclusions:

1. Terteriyski plates - a fragment of the widespread system of writing of local origin.

2. The text of one tablet lists six ancient totems that coincide with the “list” of the Sumerian city of Dzhemdet-Nasr, as well as the seal from the burial belonging to the Hungarian culture of Keresh.

3. The signs on this tablet should be read in a circle counterclockwise.

4. The content of the inscription (if it is read in Sumerian) is confirmed by the discovery of a dismembered male corpse in the same Terteria.

5. The name of the local god Shaue is identical to the Sumerian god Usmu. This tablet was translated as: “In the reign of the fortieth for the mouth of the god Shaue, the elder was burned in ritual. This is the tenth.

So what is still terteriyskie signs in themselves? There is no direct answer yet. But it is clear: only the study of the whole complex of cultural monuments of Turdash-Vinci (namely, Terteriya belong to it) can bring us closer to solving the mystery of three clay tablets.

Cases of bygone days:

The banks of the river, along which the ships ramble, are overgrown with grass...

The military road, along which chariots rolled, overgrown with weeping...

in the city housing has become ruins.

(From the Sumerian poem “Curse over Akkad”)

About twenty kilometers from Terteria is Turdash Hill. An ancient settlement of the Neolithic farmers was buried in its depths. The hill was excavated from the end of the last century, but it was not completely digged. Even then, the attention of archaeologists attracted pictographic

marks, drawn on the fragments of blood vessels. The same signs on the shards were found in the Neolithic settlement Vinca in Yugoslavia, which is related to Turdash. Then the scientists found the signs for the simple marks of the owners of the vessels. Then Turdash Hill was unlucky: the stream, changing its course, almost washed it away. In 1961, archaeologists have already appeared on the hill Terterii.

The work of scientists was nearing completion; It seemed that Terteria had discovered all her secrets ... And suddenly, beneath the bottommost layer of the hill, a pit was found, filled with ash. At the bottom - statues of ancient gods, a bracelet made of sea shells and ... three small clay tablets covered with pictographic signs. Nearby they found dissected and burned bones of an adult.

When the excitement subsided, the scientists carefully examined the small tablets. Two had a rectangular shape, the third was round. At the round and large rectangular plates in the center there was a round through hole. Careful studies have shown: tablets are made from local clay. Signs were applied on one side only. The writing technique of the ancient Tertery was very simple: the patterned marks were scratched with a sharp object on the raw clay, and then the plate was burned. Had such signs in the distant Mesopotamia, nobody would be surprised. But the Sumerian tablets in Transylvania! It was amazing. It was then that they remembered the forgotten signs on Turdash-Vinci shards. They compared them with terterias: similarity was obvious. And that says a lot. The writing of Terteria did not originate from scratch, but was a component common in the middle of the 6th and the beginning of the 5th millennium BC. e. pictorial writing of the Balkan culture of Vinci.

The first agricultural settlements appeared in the Balkans as early as the 6th millennium BC. e., and after a thousand years, farming was done throughout the entire territory of Southeast and Central Europe. How did the first farmers live? At first they lived in dugouts, cultivated

the land with stone tools. The main crop was barley. Gradually, the appearance of the settlement changed. By the end of the V millennium BC first earthen houses appear. The houses were built very simply: a frame was made of wooden pillars; the walls woven from thin rods were attached to it, which were then coated with clay. The houses were heated with vaulted furnaces. Isn't it such a house very similar to the Ukrainian hut? When he dilapidated, he was demolished, leveled the place and built a new one. Thus, the ancient village gradually grew up. Centuries passed, and gradually farmers began to master axes and other tools made of copper.

What did the ancient inhabitants of Transylvania look like? Numerous figurines found during excavations can partially recreate their appearance. Here we have the head of a man molded of clay. A calm, courageous face, a big nose with a crooked nose, hair combed into a parting, and at the back gathered into a bun. Who depicted the ancient sculptor? Leader, priest, or just a tribesman – it’s hard to say. Yes, it is not so important. Another thing is important: we do not have a frozen statue, which was carried out according to definite and strict canons, but the face of a man - an ancient resident of Transylvania. He looks at us from the depths of seven thousand years!

But highly stylized image of a woman. The body is covered with complex geometric patterns forming an intricate pattern. The same ornament is also found on other statues of the Turdash-Vinci culture. Apparently, this tangled lines had some meaning. Whether it was a tattoo, which may have been adorned by women of fashion at that time, or was there some kind of magical meaning in it, it is difficult to answer; women do not like to reveal their secrets.

Of particular interest is the large ritual pitcher, which belongs to the early period of the Vincan culture. On it we see a picture, probably, of the appearance of the sanctuary, and the image again resembles the

sanctuary of the ancient Sumerians. Again a coincidence? But after all, the two shrines are separated from each other by almost twenty centuries!

The word on clay tablets

The first rectangular plate bears the symbolic image of two goats. Between them is an ear. Perhaps the image of goats and spike was a symbol of the welfare of the community, which was based on farming and cattle breeding? Or maybe this is a hunting scene, according to N. Vlas? It is curious that a similar plot can be found on the Sumerian tablets. The second table is divided into small sections by vertical and horizontal lines. On each of them various symbolic images are scratched. Isn't it totems?

The circle of Sumerian totems is well known. And if we compare the pictures on our plate with the images on the ritual vessel found during the excavations in Jemdet-Nasr, a striking coincidence will again strike the eye. The first sign on the Sumerian tablet is the head of an animal, most likely a goat, the second represents a scorpion, the third, apparently, is the head of a person or deity, the fourth symbolizes a fish, the fifth sign is some kind of structure, the sixth is a bird. Thus, it can be assumed that the plate shows totems: "goat", "scorpion", "demon", "fish", "depth-death", and "bird".

The totems of the terteri tablets not only coincide with the Sumerian ones, but are also arranged in the same sequence. What is this, another startling coincidence? Most likely no. Graphical coincidence of characters could be random. Science similar coincidences are known. The individual signs of the mysterious writing of the Proto-Indian civilization of Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa with the signs of the Kohau-rongo-Rongo distant Easter Island are strikingly similar, for example. But the coincidence of totems and their sequence is hardly accidental. It

suggests the origin of the religious beliefs of the inhabitants of both Terteria and Gemdet-Nasr from one common root. It seems that in our hands is a kind of key to deciphering Terteria’s writing: not knowing what is written, we already know in what sequence we need to read. Therefore, the inscription can be decrypted by reading it counterclockwise around the hole in the plate. Of course, we will never know how the language of the inhabitants of Terteria sounded, but we can establish the meaning of their patterned signs, based on Sumerian equivalents.

Let us proceed to the reading of a round terteri tablet. On it are drawn the written signs divided by lines. The number of them in each square is small. So, the writing of the terteri tablets, like the archaic Sumerian script, was ideographic, syllable signs and grammatical indicators did not exist.

The following is written on the round plate:

4. NUN KA. SHA. UGULA. PI. IDIM KARA 1.

"By the four rulers of the face of the god Shaue, the elder of the mind of the deep one was burned."

What is the meaning of the inscription?

The comparison with the document from Jemdet-Nasr mentioned by us again suggests itself. It contains a list of the main priestess sisters, who led the four tribal groups. Perhaps the same priestess rulers were in Terteria? But there is another coincidence. In the inscription from Terterii, the god Shaue is mentioned, and the name of the god is depicted in the same way as that of the Sumerians. Yes, apparently, the terteri tablet contained brief information about the ritual of burning a priest who had served a certain period of his reign.

So who were the ancient inhabitants of Terteria, who wrote "in Sumerian" in the V millennium BC. Oe., when the Sumer itself was still not there? Ancestors of the Sumerians? Some scientists believe that the prashumers broke away from prakartvelo in the XV - XII millennium BC, after leaving Georgia to Kurdistan. How could they pass on their writing to the peoples of South-Eastern Europe? This is an important question. And the answer to it yet.

The ancient inhabitants of the Balkans had a significant impact on the culture of Asia Minor. The connection of the Turdash-Vinci culture through pictographic signs on ceramics is especially well traced with it. Signs, sometimes completely identical to the Vincan, were found in the legendary Troy (the beginning of the third millennium BC). Then they appear in other parts of Asia Minor. The distant echoes of Vinci writing contain the pictographic writing of ancient Crete. One cannot but agree with the proposal of the archaeologist V. Titov that primitive writing in Aegean countries has its roots in the Balkans of the 4th millennium BC, and did not arise at all under the influence of a distant Mesopotamia, as some researchers had previously believed.

In addition, it is known: the creators of the Balkan culture of Vinci in the V millennium BC. e. broke through Asia Minor to Kurdistan and Khuzestan, where exactly the Prouchumers settled at that time. And soon, in this area, the pictographic proto-Elam writing, which is equally close to both the Sumerian and the Terterian, arises.

The conclusion suggests itself: the inventors of the Sumerian writing were, paradoxically, not the Sumerians, but the inhabitants of the Balkans. Indeed, how else to explain that the most ancient writing in Sumer, dating from the end of IV millennium BC. e., appeared quite suddenly and already in a fully developed form. The Sumerians (like the Babylonians) were only good students, taking pictographic writing from

the Balkan peoples and later developing it into cuneiform.

The branches of one tree

Among the questions that have arisen in the process of studying the Terteri find, two are particularly important to me:

1. How did the terteri writing come about and what system of writing did it adjoin?
2. What language did terteriytsy speak?

B. Perlov is certainly right in asserting that the Sumerian writing appeared in the Southern Mesopotamia at the end of the 4th millennium BC. e. somehow unexpectedly, in a completely finished form. It was on it that the ancient encyclopedia of humanity “Harrahubulu” was recorded, which completely reflected the worldview of people of the 10th - 4th millennium BC.

The study of the laws of the internal development of the Sumerian pictography shows that by the end of the 4th millennium BC. e. pictographic writing as a system was in a state of not becoming, but decay. Of the entire Sumerian writing system (with about 38 thousand signs and variations), a little more than 5 thousand were used, all of which came from 72 ancient nests of symbols. The process of polyphonization (that is, the sounding of the same sign) of the nests of the Sumerian system began long before that.

Polyphonization gradually eroded the outer shell of a complex mark in whole nests, then destroyed the internal design of the mark in the nests of half-decomposed and, finally, completely destroyed the nest itself. The nest-symbols disintegrated into polyphonic beams long before the arrival of the Sumerians in Mesopotamia. It is curious that in Proto-Elam writing, which existed simultaneously with the Sumerian and also

on the shores of the Persian Gulf, a similar phenomenon is observed. The Proto-Elamo letter also boils down to 70 nest-symbols, which have broken up into 70 polyphonic beams. Both the proto-Elam sign and the Sumerian have internal and external design. But proto-Elam has more pendants. Therefore, in its system, it is closer to the Chinese hieroglyphics.

In the era of Fuxi (2852 - 2752 BC), nomadic Aryans invaded in China from the north-west and brought with them a well-established script. But the ancient Chinese pictography was preceded by the writing of the Namazga culture (Central Asia). Separate groups of signs in it have both Sumerian and Chinese counterparts. What is the reason for the similarity of the writing system among such different peoples? The fact is that they had one source, the decay of which occurred in the VII millennium BC. e.

For two thousand years before the collapse, the Elamo-Chinese area was in contact with the Sumeroid cultures of Guran and the Iranian Zagros. The eastern range of writing was opposed by the Western, formed under the influence of the Sumerians of pre-Guran (Ganj-Daro). Subsequently, the writing of the ancient Egyptians, the Crete-Mykene, the Sumerians and the Terterians arose from it.

Thus, the legend of the "Babylonian" pandemonium and the disintegration of a single earthly language is not so groundless. For, comparing 72 nests of Sumerian writing with similar nests-symbols of all other writing systems, one is struck by their coincidence not only by the design principles, but also by the internal content. Before us are like fragments, mutually complementing links of a disintegrated unified system. When the reconstructed symbolism of this writing IX - VIII millennia BC comparing it with the symbols of the late Paleolithic of Europe (20–10 thousand years BC), it is impossible not to draw attention to their far from coincidental coincidence.

Yes, written systems of the IV millennium BC. e. did not arise in different places of our planet, but were only a consequence of the autonomous development of fragments of a broken, unified system of religious symbolism that arose in one place.

But what language did the ancient Terterians speak? Take a look at the ethnic map of Western Europe VII - VI millennium BC. e. At this time, a population explosion occurred as a result of the Neolithic revolution. Over several centuries, the population has increased 17 times (from 5 million to 85). There was a transition from gathering to floodplain agriculture. Excess population in the Balkans, the ancestral home of the Semitic-Hamitic peoples, led them to a widespread relocation to less populated areas where the Neolithic revolution had not yet occurred. The offensive was conducted to the north along the Danube and to the south through Asia Minor, the Far East, North Africa and Spain. Taking advantage of the enormous numerical superiority, the pracemites from the east and the prahamites from the west wiped out the Praindo-Europeans far to the north (to the areas that had recently been liberated from the glacier).

Vivid pictures of this struggle of peoples are preserved, by the way, in Celtic mythology. The Slavonic names of the Celtic Gods testify that the Slavs who did not submit to the enemies remained a bright banner in the eyes of the French prakelts, becoming their gods. The Celtic “Proto-Slavs” - danants from the Goria clan (i.e., “hotly”) subjugated the Harz pragreks and after that entered into a long struggle against the preemites of the Danube cultures. This is reflected in the Indian (Manu-Svarozhich) and in Greek myths.

The war was very cruel and long. The allies of the Pra-Indo-Europeans were the Sumeroids of the Iranian Zagros, far from them, who had accomplished the Neolithic revolution even earlier and rushed into

Asia Minor from the east. Semitic Hamit ticks were broken. The Khamites threw the main forces into the Egyptian theater of military operations, while the Semites threw themselves onto the Greek and Asia Minor, where they eventually repelled the invasion of the Sumerians, the ancestors of the ancient Egyptians. However, it was a Pyrrhic victory. Semito-Hamit offensive exhausted.

And in the VI millennium BC the Neolithic revolution was accomplished by the Indo-Europeans. Turning to the distant pasture, they gained power over the boundless expanses of the Great Steppe. The prahamites were assimilated by the Celts throughout Europe, and the pracemites fled to the lower Danube.

Between the Indo-Europeans of Denmark and Pomerania and the pracemites of Thrace to the beginning of the 5th millennium BC formed a huge buffer zone (Upper Danube, Carpathian, Ukraine) with a very special population. Later, its core (Baden culture) was the source of the ethnic group of Lesbos, Tripoli and Troy. That is why there are weighty reasons to associate the inhabitants of this region (including Terteriytsy and Tripoli) with Praetruscans, as anthropological data also convince. Praetrusians finally drove the prasemites from the rest of the Balkans at the end of the 5th millennium BC to Asia Minor and the Front East. Thus, they cleared the way for the Indo-European cattlemen, victoriously advancing from the north.

In search of the mysterious Hyperborea

Anna Trubacheva and Alexander Evsyukov told us about the mysticism and the dangers that accompanied this journey.

What is Hyperborea, and why did you go to the Kola Peninsula in search of its tracks?

S.E.: Hyperborea is a special country that was inhabited by giants who grew out of the blood of titans, who had unique knowledge. It was a pro-civilization, there is a version that both Hyperborea and Atlantis are the names of the places where the peoples of this pracivilization lived, the ancestors of all mankind. The word “hyperborea” itself is translated from Greek as “following the north wind”.

A.T .: Greek historians point out that this land was located in the North, this was written by Herodotus, Pliny Sr. and other authors. Where in the North? Kola land. First, we filmed an ancient observatory and labyrinth in the Murmansk region, and then we went to Lovozero to shoot Mount Ninchurt, Koldun Island, Seydozero, Mount Kuivchorr. After that, we went to Severomorsk, took down the shaman rite in the village of Shangui, then went to Vottovaaru, to the village of Gimoly, this is already Karelia. The expedition lasted two weeks, from 1 to 14 October.

Did you manage to find traces of the existence of an ancient civilization on this land?

A.T.: Material culture without legends, without the memory of the people who inhabited these lands once upon a time, has no meaning. Here are these legends, multiplied by the artifacts that we discovered, and led us to the fact that most likely yes, after all there was some kind of civilization. In the three main points that we chose for our route, we discovered something.

C.E.: For example, we have found the so-called stone staircase, this is a huge stone that lies in the tundra, very far from modern human habitats, in which the staircase in 13 steps is “hollowed out”. It lies high on a mountain in the middle of a forest. This object is often called the staircase on the Internet, but during filming we came to the conclusion

that it looks more like a stadium, an amphitheater. And it is located on the highest place, a plateau the size of a football field is spread out below, and it is quite possible to imagine that the priests of ancient cults once sat there.

Our second point was Lovozero and Mount Ninchurt. While we were climbing Barchenko peak, we stumbled upon giant stone blocks of various sizes. What struck us - these stone blocks have the correct shape of large bricks with angles of 90 degrees and a perfectly flat surface. Nearby there are blocks that do not have such proportions, which are really more like natural formations.

A.T: Of course, we cannot claim that it was created by human hands, but our expert, Sergey Sergeevich Smirnov from the Pulkovo Observatory, suggested that these blocks are part of a destroyed ancient observatory intended for astronomical observations. There are many artifacts that cause a lot of questions, I want to investigate this story and, perhaps, repeat the expedition. Because of the timing, we did not have time to inspect everything, but we took chipped stones, we would slightly open some riddles for the viewers.

What objects most attract the attention of seekers of Hyperborea?

C.E .: The most famous objects are seids standing on the Seidozer, which the Sami worship. These are giant stones that stand on the "legs" of other smaller stones. There are a lot of seids, it seems that they, too, could be elements of some ancient observatories or, perhaps, signs. Sami living on the Kola Peninsula believe that spirits live in these stones, some of them worship, and some, on the contrary, bypass. But they are all convinced that the seids on this earth appeared long before the Saami settled in these territories.

Often, the inexplicable is usually enveloped with a halo of

mysticism, mysticism fills the myths about Shambhala and Atlantis, did something mystical happen to you during the expedition?

A.T .: There is a Kuivchorr rock on Seidozero, on which a huge black silhouette of a person stands out. Locals call it Kuiva. The height of the figure is 70 meters, it is visible from anywhere in the lake. We wanted to take a sample of this black layer in order to find out whether this is a natural image or man-made. Our climbers were preparing to climb the rock all day, but the day after our arrival, the weather changed dramatically. Snowfall prevented them. They could not approach the mysterious image. Who would have thought that the snow would fall in early October, especially at the very hour when our climbers begin their ascent. Such fatal accidents followed us constantly. For example, we had planned a dive to the bottom of Seydozer. We did this, even filmed something, but for some reason, the sludge suddenly rose, then the signal disappeared, and we could not see anything else.

S.E: Above the ancient stone Kandalaksha labyrinth near Murmansk, the signal from our copter suddenly disappeared, he began to behave completely erratically, and the operator could not land him for ten minutes. When we arrived at Lovozero, there was perfect clear autumn weather. A day later we wake up - everything is in the snow, the weather changed overnight from autumn to winter, a storm began on the lake. Then we broke the boat. An experienced navigator, who has been swimming on this lake for 20 years, suddenly hits a stone on a laid route. We ran aground, then pushed the boat to get out. And the first days in the group were constantly friction, we could not understand what was the matter, why we quarrel so much, and then our scientist said that this is all the groups that come to these places. Five days later we all overcame it.

You went on an expedition out of season, in October, when the weather in the north becomes unpredictable. Physically was it a difficult

journey?

A.T.: Our base was on one side of the lake, and to get to the opposite side, we had to go every morning for an hour and a half, first, on the first lake by boat, and then walk for about 40 minutes: cross the isthmus between the lakes. Then change to another boat and sail for another 40 minutes. In the dark boats do not walk, so the conditions were harsh. At Seydozero, where we rented most of the time, we had a regular inflatable boat, designed for four people, but we housed the six of us with equipment — a copter, cameras ... She was swimming very slowly, and we constantly had to scoop up water. It was snowing, it was awful. We were told that people were drowning. Our guide constantly said - you arrived at the wrong time of year.

C.E.: We swam along the center of the lake, and if something happened to the boat, we would not be able to reach the shore, because the water is 4 degrees heat. Thoughts about security still visited us at Barchenko Peak. When you go uphill on slippery stones with equipment all the time, it is quite dangerous. In general, the shooting was very hard, physically demanding from the group a good composure, intrinsic motivation.

Did you manage to see how the locals live?

A.T.: The Greeks wrote that the Hyperboreans possessed sacred knowledge. In the Kola North, hereditary northern shamans still live today, noyds, who, as they say, can also go out of their bodies, make astral flights and refer to ancestral spirits, or, as they say, “ancestral spirits. We communicated with the shamans, removed the unique ritual of the Sami shaman, which showed us how her grandfathers and great-grandfathers did it.

When we arrived at Vottovaaru Mountain, our extreme point, we

stopped in the village of Gimoly almost on the border with Finland. There is no asphalt there - usual gravel roads with such potholes that we drove 90 kilometers for five hours. You come to the village, and there is no light. It’s absolutely dark village in which 150 people live on the strength. We settled in an ordinary country house, drowned the stove ourselves, and carried water. Locals do not live, but survive. In Soviet times, residents there were engaged in logging, now there is nothing like that there. There is nothing at all, not even schools, so those who have children leave for the neighboring village, where two schools still work. Our guide lives only by driving film crews and tourists, living well, because he's the only one who has a good car, his own shop. The rest live in retirement.

The Quest for Eldorado

In 1636, when the conquistadors conquered America, the Spaniard Juan Rodriguez left descendants a description of one curious rite. Natives hundreds converged on the shores of a deep black lake, lying at an altitude of 2700 m in the mouth of an extinct volcano. During the ceremony, the priests took off the ruler of clothing, smeared it with clay and showered with golden sand.

And the ruler turned into Eldorado, the Golden Man. He was led to a raft, on which four were already waiting. Loaded with offerings in the form of gold and emeralds, the raft slid to the middle of the lake.

Four on a raft lowered offerings into the water, and then the ruler jumped off. When he again appeared on the surface, the golden cocoon was no longer...

Rodriguez, who described this scene, was not an eyewitness to it. In 1636, the rite of the Golden Man was already a thing of the past, and

it is not known whether he was ever sent at all.

One hundred years before the events described, the Spaniards, in search of legendary Indian treasures, invaded the hills of present-day Colombia, but did not find anything significant. But with great success they eradicated the indigenous culture of the Chibcha people.

The ease with which Hernan Cortes conquered the Aztec empire in Mexico, and Francisco Pizarro brought the Incas to their knees, stirred up other Europeans' predatory appetites.

In 1536, about 900 white adventurers came out from the settlement of Santa Marta on the northeast coast of Colombia. The expedition wanted to go upstream the Magdalena River, get to its source, find a new route through the Andes to Peru and, if lucky, open another native empire that could be ruined and plundered.

The leader of this campaign was the stern and pious assistant to the governor of the province, Solicitor from Granada Gonzalo Jimenez de Quezada.

For eleven months, his people suffered incredible hardships, cut their way through impassable thickets, overcame swamps swarming with poisonous snakes, alligators and predators. The natives showered them from ambush with a rain of poisoned arrows.

The grief-invaders starved, suffered from fever and died like flies, and the survivors ate frogs and lizards. Kwesada decided to turn back, but here his half-dead army of less than 200 men climbed onto the Cundinamarca plateau.

Before the stunned invaders lay the well-groomed corn and potato fields and the neat huts of rich villages. There was a melodic chime of

wind-shaken thin gold plates hanging over the doors.

Europeans have never heard such sweet music. After a long ordeal, they finally reached the country of the Chibcha Indians.

Frightened by strangers, and especially their horses, many Chichba left the settlements. But the rest welcomed the Europeans as gods descending from the sky, offered food, women and, most importantly, so desired gold. The despicable metal was not considered a special value by Chibcha.

They traded it from the neighboring tribes for emeralds and salt, which were abundant in these places. They did not have the slightest idea about the value of gold of chichba, they appreciated it for its brilliance and fusibility, which made it possible to make fine jewelry, utensils and religious objects.

The greedy Europeans had few friendly gifts, and they began to rob. A few months later, Quevesada subjugated the entire region, losing only one soldier.

But the Spaniards could not immediately find out where the Chibcha took the gold. A lot of time passed before one old Indian (probably under torture) told them the secret of Eldorado, the Golden Man. To extract untold treasures, one must go east to the mountains where Lake Guatavita lurks.

It is there that one of the leaders annually gives the gods offerings to the Indians, dropping gold and emeralds into the waters of the lake, and then covering the body with golden sand, dives into the lake itself to add its gift to the donations of the tribesmen.

True? Legend? Trick of an old man to distract the invaders from

plundering his native country? However, the story made an enormous impression on Europeans, entered the history of the Conquest, and soon turned from Golden Man to Eldorado - the subject of desire of the miners of gold miners, the country of fabulous treasures, which, as is usually the case, lies “behind the next mountain” ".

Before taking his people to search for Eldorado, Quesada decided to return to Santa Marta and establish himself as governor of the highlands he had conquered, renamed them the New Granada.

But in February 1539, news of a new expedition of Europeans came to the mountains, approaching from the north-east to the capital of Santa Fe de Bogota, which had just been founded by Quevesada.

It turned out to be a gang headed by a German, Nicolae Federmann, who acted on the instructions of the “Belser” trading house from Augsburg. In a sign of gratitude for financial assistance in the election of the emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, King of Spain Charles I gave the house "Belser" the province of Venezuela. In search of another "free" native kingdom, a German emerged from the coastal settlement of Corot.

For more than two years, he sought a passage through the mountain range to the Cundinamarca Plateau. Quezada met the haggard, half-dead from hunger and almost naked strangers wary, but offered them food and clothing - hoping for their help during the invasion of the land of Eldorado.

And then the news of another squad approaching came from the southwest, headed by Sebastian de Belalcazar, the closest aide to the conqueror of Peru, Francisco Pizarro.

Belalcazar pursued the remnants of the Inca forces retreating to the north. Having driven them to Ecuador, he founded the city of Quito

there, but along the way he also heard about hidden fabulous riches.

Belalcazar arrived in Santa Fe de Bogota with a squad of well-equipped and armed Europeans on beautiful horses, brought with him silver tableware and drove 300 pigs, which pleased the Europeans who had come to the plateau earlier for meat. By an incredible coincidence, there were 166 people in each of the three units.

Between the leaders began a dispute about the preferential right to conquer another native empire. Not reaching an agreement, they went to Spain to present their claims to the king.

Meanwhile, the TD "Belzer" lost Venezuela, captured by another Spanish adventurer, and as a result Federmann, out of work, died in poverty. Belalcazar was granted the position of head of one of the cities founded by him on his way to Santa Fe de Bogota, but his star also rolled and ended badly.

Quezada never received the post of governor and was forced to be content with the honorary military rank of Marshal of New Granada. He lived to be 80 years old and never for a moment part with the dream of finding Eldorado.

While the three disputants exchanged claims with the king, the search for Eldorado continued. The first who attempted to get from the bottom of the Guatavite ostensibly the treasures lying there was Hernán-Pérez de Quezad, the brother of the conqueror of New Granada.

In the dry season of 1540, he ordered his people to scoop out all the water from the lake with ladles from pumpkins. For three months of painstaking work, he really managed to lower the water level by about 3.5 meters and extract over 3000 small gold items, but the Spaniards did not manage to get to the middle of the lake, where the lion's share of the

treasure was supposed to lie.

Forty years later an even more audacious attempt was made to drain the lake. A wealthy merchant from Bogota hired several thousand natives to dig a diversion canal. As a result, the water level dropped by 20 m.

An emerald the size of an egg and many gold trinkets were found on the exposed bottom of the bottom, but this prey was not enough to cover the costs. Another treasure seeker also tried, but abandoned the idea when his workers died.

The last attempt to drain the lake was made in 1912. British treasure hunters, who dragged huge pumps ashore, managed to pump out almost all of the water, but soft mud at the bottom immediately sucked anyone.

The next day, the sludge dried up and became as hard as concrete. Spending on the company $ 160 thousand, the British removed from the lake gold jewelry in the amount of $ 10 thousand.

In 1965, the Colombian government declared Lake Guatavita a national historical reserve and put an end to all attempts to reach its bottom.

In 1541, five years after the start of the Belalcazar campaign, Gonzalo Pizarro, the brother of the conqueror of Peru, also left Quito and set off in search of Eldorado, which is rumored to be rich not only in gold, but also in very expensive cinnamon. Soon Pizarro was joined by the soldier of fortune Francisco de Orellana.

But as soon as the expedition crossed the Andes and headed east, to the selva, the satellites parted. Pizarro eventually returned to Quito, and

Orellana went along a wide calm river and reached the Atlantic coast.

On the way, he came across a native tribe, whose women owned a bow and arrow much better than men. Recalling the ancient Greek legend of warriors, Orellana called this river Amazon.

They were followed by other Spanish adventurers, who expanded the search area of Eldorado to the mouth of the Amazon and Orinoco. One of the most stubborn was Antonio de Berrio, the governor of the interfluve.

Like the others, he was convinced that the object of the search lay at the bottom of one of the highland lakes, but much east, in the mountains of Guiana, where the defeated Incas retreated and where they founded the legendary city of Manoa, whose streets were rumored to be paved with gold.

From 1584 to 1595, Berrio led expeditions to Guiana three times. During the third hike, he reached Trinidad, where he met Sir Walter Raleigh, who was trying to regain his lost glory as a colonizer.

The Englishman, the drinker Berrio, revealed the secret of Eldorado and, subjecting him to temporary imprisonment, he returned to his homeland, where he wrote an enthusiastic report on Eldorado.

Reilly took the word for Berrio and ardently argued that Eldorado is much richer than Peru. Reilly's book did not arouse much interest in Manoa, and his own attempt to find Eldorado ended in failure.

For more than 400 years, the story of the Golden Man has stirred the imagination of gold miners. None of them, of course, found a lake with a gold mine, or a city with golden pavements.

All the gold they discovered existed only in the form of fancy ornaments and decorations that did not meet European standards. Therefore, most of the products were simply melted down, and the ingots were brought home. The little that has been preserved in its original form is now kept in museums.

No matter how much Europeans snooped around South America, they were never able to satisfy their insatiable greed. Fortunately, during the search, they almost randomly compiled detailed maps of almost the entire continent. The thirst for gold helped them endure the monstrous and depriving in a strange land and survive.

The Indians could not understand why the aliens are so eager to get these shiny things to decorate houses and shrines. They do not save the cold, they do not satisfy hunger, and they do not give pleasure. This plunged the Indians into complete confusion.

But not Europeans. They already knew what market relations were, and therefore they so readily believed in the Golden Man, who, if he was at all, disappeared long before they began to search for him.

Cleopatra's Secrets

Cleopatra is known worldwide for its extraordinary beauty. There are many stories associated with this great ruler who was able to win the love of her people. Some write that Cleopatra was not particularly beautiful, and yet her name has been on her lips for many centuries ...

For more than two thousand years, the interest in the mysterious queen and the most famous odious historical figure Cleopatra has not decreased. Many ancient classics did not ignore the queen-queens. She is also mentioned in the works of such eminent writers of a later period

such as Bernard Shaw, Shakespeare and Pushkin. Cleopatra and today devoted a lot of novels, short stories and novels. Only our contemporaries in their works focus on savoring the appearance and intimate life of the queen, leaving the image of Cleopatra as a clever ruler and far-sighted politician outside of their works.

What information about Queen Cleopatra could be gathered from the available sources? First of all, we are talking about a talented courtesan with a rare treachery. About her many sweethearts who are ready to pay with their lives for the night spent with Cleopatra (the phrase "Cleopatra's Nights" has become a household name). And how many exotic cosmetics associated with the queen! A persistent opinion is created that Cleopatra is a myth created by imagination. And that this myth with a skillful hand adapts to the views and needs of society. Modern researchers believe that the rumors about the queen's promiscuity came from Octavian Augustus, who hated Cleopatra. But even this did not prevent Cleopatra in the Renaissance to become the ideal of sublime love and virtue.

It so happened that Cleopatra was the last queen on the throne of ancient Egypt. Before her rules a whole galaxy of weak-willed and weak kings. So the father of the queen, known only because he played the flute well. Therefore, with her accession to the throne, a wise and strong ruler reigned in ancient Egypt.

At that time, the star of Egypt was almost out, the decisive role in the region was played by Rome, which aggressively waged aggressive wars, annexing more and more lands to its possessions. Everyone understood that in this situation Egypt would inevitably submit to Rome. But Cleopatra did not leave the hope of ensuring the state freedom and fought for the independence of Egypt with all the methods available to her. Her father and grandfather “bought” their right to a kingdom in Egypt from Rome. The Egyptian army could not resist the Roman

legions, and therefore had to redeem their independence (in Rome, there were always rumors of untold riches in the treasures of Egypt).

It is difficult to say what was the main priority of the queen - great love or a clear calculation. One thing is clear: in her struggle for the independence of Egypt, she made a bet on the two greatest rulers of Rome - Guy Julius Caesar and Mark Antony. In Rome at that time, too, was restless: the transition from the republic to the empire took place in a bitter struggle between the senators and the consuls. Yes, and in the ruling house of Egypt was restless: Cleopatra had to defend her right to the throne from the younger sister and her brothers (according to the law, Cleopatra had to share the throne of Egypt with one of her co-rulers).

Cleopatra met the fifty-year-old Julius Caesar when she was 20 years old. The Roman commander has already acquired the glory of the greatest man of the Roman Empire. Apparently Caesar felt for Cleopatra, really, strong feelings. This is evidenced by the fact that instead of confronting political opponents to preserve his power in the empire, he spent several months in Egypt, enjoying communion with Cleopatra. They traveled to the headwaters of the Nile, rested at the Roman villa of Caesar. The dictator dreamed of the time when he would become the sovereign ruler of Rome, and Cleopatra would take the place of his co-ruler and spouse. Caesar conquered not only the beauty of the Queen of Egypt, but also her keen mind and extensive knowledge.

Undoubtedly, Cleopatra was a talented psychologist. If the dictator's plans had been fulfilled, Cleopatra would have succeeded in making Egypt a center of culture and the arts of the Roman Empire. And most importantly, the queen would have been easy to retain their power in the state and get the protection of the great Rome. Caesar was not going to divorce a Roman wife. He prepared a draft law, under which he, as the lord of Rome, was allowed to have several wives to ensure the birth of heirs. He planned to adopt his child, born Cleopatra. The son

was called Ptolemy XV Caesar, and he was, by right of birth, co-ruler of the mother.

However, Caesar was betrayed by his associates and murdered evilly. Cleopatra had no choice but to find a new Roman patron. And they became a talented Roman commander Mark Antony. After the murder of Caesar, power passed to his two "heirs": Octavian ruled the western provinces of the empire, and Mark Antony - the eastern. Judging by the descriptions of contemporaries, Mark Antony was rude, he loved to take a drink and drink, because of this he received the nickname “Deonis”. A good psychologist and a very intelligent woman, Cleopatra prepared her first meeting with the governor of the East, so that everyone, including Mark Antony, had the impression that “Aphrodite herself is marching to Dionysus for the benefit of Asia.”

She arrived in a boat whose food was made of gold, and the purple sail reinforced the impression of the spectacular sight. The air was filled with the smell of amazing aromas. To the sound of flutes, silver oars rose and fell into the water. Cleopatra herself reclined in a golden tent, and it was not more beautiful than it on the whole earth. This is exactly how Shakespeare described the meeting of Antony and Cleopatra.

The benefit of this union was obvious: Antony needed the wealth of Egypt, Cleopatra wanted to remain on the throne of her country and get access to the management of the Roman state. Historians believe that if the plans of these two were destined to come true, then not Rome, but Alexandria would be the center of the most powerful monarchy.

The romance of the commander and the queens discussed the gossipers of both states. The relationship of Anthony and Cleopatra did not differ by elevation and nobility, but the queen easily adjusted to the low level of interests of her new lover. The chronicles mention frequent and magnificent feasts that were arranged by lovers, unusual, for the

former Cleopatra, royal amusements, which were most likely inherent to commoners than to monarchs, etc. The novel lasted 14 years. During this time, the couple had children - Alexander-Helios and Cleopatra-Selene.

Anthony made a very rash step: he gave almost all the Eastern Roman possessions to the Egyptian wife and children. Octavian did not need to look for a pretext for declaring war on Egypt: he unveiled the testament of Mark Antony in the Senate, whom he appointed Cleopatra's son from Julius Caesar as his successor and formally assigned the Egyptian queen not only the right to power in his country, but also the right to roman lands. Senators, enraged by the decision of Mark Antony, allowed Octavian to declare war on Cleopatra as the queen of Egypt. The ending of this story is known to everyone: after the death of Mark Antony, the queen of Egypt killed herself, knowing that this way she could avoid the shame that Octavian had prepared for her and Egypt.

Despite such a tragic fate, we must admit that Cleopatra VII Philopatra is one of the most famous personalities in history. A woman on the throne of Egypt is a rather unique phenomenon (although before her Egypt was a rule of several queens and the most famous of them is Hatshepsut).

Cleopatra is put on a par with the most famous politicians of his time. She managed to keep her "big game", the goal of which was the freedom of her state and the Egyptian throne. But to consider her a loser would be wrong. She managed more than 20 years to preserve the independence of Egypt, being close to the aggressive and all-powerful Rome. Against its background, the former rulers of Egypt were simply gray shadows, reptiles in front of the Roman Empire. Who remembers any Ptolemy now? But everybody knows about the Queen Cleopatra, a beautiful, intelligent, charming woman, although thousands of years have passed. Until now, Cleopatra is an example of beauty, fortitude, wisdom and true greatness.

Talos: ancient Greek robot

Many people know the figure of the bronze giant Talos thanks to the film “Jason and the Argonauts”, which used Ray Harrihausen’s amazing special effects. But where did the legend of Talos come from and is he not the first robot in history?

Indeed, the myths and legends of Crete contain several versions of the origin of Talos. After Zeus kidnapped Europe and sent her to Crete, he presented her with three things demonstrating his love, one of which was the giant bronze robot Taloe. A friend of the version, the giant forged Hephaestus with the Cyclops and presented it to the king of Crete Minos. According to another myth, Taloe was the son of Croesus and the father of Festus, or the brother of Minos. It was probably a bull, the image of which people associated with the Minotaur from the Cretan labyrinth. Apollonius of Rhodes in Argonavtik says that "he was a breed of people from bronze, from ash tree, the last surviving of the sons of the gods."

Taloye, or Tal, in the ancient Cretan dialect means "the sun." In Crete, the god Zeus was also called Zeus Talaio-som. Taloe was the protector of the island of Crete. He visited the island three times a day, protecting him from invading enemies, and also not allowing the local population to leave the island without the permission of Minos. Three times a year, he visited the Cretan settlements with bronze tablets in their hands, on which the sacred laws of Minos were written, as he was responsible for their implementation. It was rumored that Talo threw huge stones into the approaching enemy ships so that they could not land.

If the enemy succeeded in avoiding a hail of stones, the copper

giant rushed into the fire and, red-hot, enclosed the strangers who landed on the beach in flaming embrace. They say that before Taloe belonged to the inhabitants of Sardinia, and when they refused to give it to Minos, he pressed them to his chest and rushed into the fire. From this, apparently, the expression "sardonic laughter", which is used in relation to those who laugh at their own or other people's problems, has gone.

Jason and the Argonauts collided with Talos, when, after winning the golden fleece, they sailed home and landed on Crete on the way. The giant kept the ship "Argo" in the bay, throwing into them huge boulders, which broke off from the cliffs. Medea, who accompanied Jason, reflected the destructive blows of Talos with magic. Legend has it that “his whole body, all members were bronze and invulnerable; only under one tendon on the ankle there was a blood-red vein, and this vein, in which his life and death consisted, was covered with a thin peel ”. A thin nail prevented the divine ichor from flowing out (an oily substance, which is considered to be the blood of the gods), which allowed metal limbs to move. It was the only vulnerable spot on his body.

In Argonavtikika, it tells how Medea cast a spell on the giant with her piercing gaze, and then singing caused Ker (the spirits of death) to sing. Taloc tried to throw stones at the howling ghosts, but accidentally caught a sharp stone in a vulnerable spot and crashed to the ground. Divine ichor emerged as molten lead. According to another version, Medea enchanted a bronze man and deceived him, saying that he would give him a secret potion that would make him immortal if he allowed her to stay on the island. Taloe agreed and drank the potion, which instantly put him to sleep. Then Medea pulled a bronze nail from his heel and the giant died.

Another version says that the argonaute Peant (father of Philoctete, who participated in the Trojan War) hit the giant's vein with an arrow, and when Taloye died, the Argo calmly landed on the shores of Crete. In

the Cretan city of Festa, coins of the 4th - 3rd centuries were found. BC e. with the image of Talos. On the red-figure crater (vase) of the end of the 5th century The Dioscuri brothers (the heroic gods Castor and Pollux) were depicted supporting the dying Talos, and Medea, in eastern dress, stands aside before the ship Argo with an embroidered sack in her hands (probably, her magic potions and drugs were in it).

The legend of the bronze Cretan man is interpreted differently. It must be said that the myth of Talos recalls the tradition of Achilles, who suffered the same fate during the Trojan War. Therefore, the same sources may be the basis of both legends. In terms of political history, Taloe personifies the Minoan fleet, armed with metal weapons. When the troops of mainland Greece in the face of the Argonauts from the ship "Argo" defeated Talos, Crete lost its dominance and control over the Greek world moved to the mainland of Greece. Or maybe. The Taloe symbolized the Minoan guards guarding the harbors of Crete from the pirates who overwhelmed the island.

There were three observation points, from which the patrols went on patrol. The poet Robert Graves believes that Talos’s only vein is connected with the mystery of the ancient production of bronze articles. They were made using the “cire perdue” method (with lost wax). First, a model was molded from clay and filled with wax. Then it covered with clay mold with holes. After heating, the wax flowed through the holes (hence the name of the method), and molten metal was poured into the resulting void.

The hypothesis on a religious basis appeared after stone seals were discovered around 1500 BC. e. with the image of a goddess or priestess, floating on a boat to the sea tombs, which resembles the movement of a bronze warrior around the island. As mentioned above, “thawed” means the sun, so Robert Graves suggested that Talos-sun really walked around the island once a day. Since Talos is a bronze image of the sun, it was

also called a bull (bull), and the Cretan year was divided into three seasons, visiting the villages three times a year could mean the procession of the king of the sun, who put on the ritual mask of the bull.

According to another theory, Talos was the first controlled robot in history. It was estimated that if Talos traveled Crete three times a day, then its speed was 155 miles per hour. Proponents of this hypothesis say: when a giant was wounded in a sleeper, instead of blood, something like melted lead flowed out of the body. In general, the Greeks created a lot of devices that are most often used in the theater and religious ceremonies. In the history of preserved evidence of primitive ancient robots. In 350 BC the greatest Greek mathematician Archit built a mechanical bird, like a pigeon, which moved at the expense of variable air currents. It was one of the first flight experiences in history, and perhaps the oldest airplane model.

In 322 BC. e. The ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle, probably anticipating the development of robotics, wrote: “If every tool, when told to him, or even thanks to his inherent consistency, can do the work that is appropriate for him to do ... then there will be no need for apprentices for masters or slaves for gentlemen. At the end of the III. BC e. The Greek inventor and physicist Kteziby of Alexandria invented the water clock with moving figures, which remained the most accurate clock in the world until the 17th century.

More than 1600 years later, around 1595, Leonardo da Vinci designed (and probably even built) a mechanical armor knight who, perhaps, became the first humanoid robot in history. Inside the da Vinci robot was a mechanism that brought an artificial person into action with the help of cables and rollers, creating the illusion that there is a real person inside. This robot could sit, rotate hands and move its head, while anatomically opening and closing its mouth. He could even imitate sounds: he went to the accompaniment of automatic musical instruments

- drums.

The artist’s drawings show that all parts of the device could move smoothly: their movements were controlled by a mechanical control device, which was programmed using direct coding and located inside the chest of the robot, and the legs were actuated separately using an external handle that tied the cable important links in the ankle, knee and hip. The da Vinci robot was dressed in armor, typical of Germany and Italy at the end of the 15th century. It should be noted that in the Middle Ages there were only a few inventors who created similar machines for the entertainment of the royal family.

In 2005, employees of the Faculty of Biochemical Engineering at the University of Connecticut decided to recreate the da Vinci robot. Their project will include technologies of the 21st century, including “visual and auditory recognition, voice commands, computer-integrated mechanisms and a more developed body structure”. The robot will also have a rotating neck so that it can turn its head toward moving objects. The recreated robot will have two control models: one will respond to computer commands, and the other to voice commands. Da Vinci’s blocks and gears will be used in conjunction with a muscular model to simulate a person’s natural movements.

But how is this comparable to a robot that existed in ancient Greece? It is possible that Talos was just a mythical figure. However, the giant bronze man of Crete could also be the prototype of all modern robots.

Mystery of the Phaistos disc

It began at the end of the XIX century. One traveler, who had just returned from Greece to his homeland, to England, presented the Oxford

Museum with a small carnelian print with strange images. Seal interested Sir Arthur Evans - the keeper of the museum. He puzzled over her origin for a long time, but never came to any conclusion. A few years later, Evans managed to go to Athens, where he found several more seals, very similar to the one that was kept in the museum. The seals were three- and four-sided, oval-shaped, containing images of pictorial signs similar to hieroglyphs. All owners of the seals claimed that these seals were brought from Crete.

"So the search led Evans to Crete, where he collected many items belonging to the era of the kingdom of Minos, sung by Homer. But what surprised Evans most of all was that the ancient seals and gems that he hunted were now favorite cretan jewelery peasant women. The researcher easily managed to acquire a large number of seals from hospitable locals. If the owners of amulets and jewelery did not want to part with their treasures, Evans took pictures of them. "

Scientists believe that carving on seals existed in Crete as early as the XXX century BC. The first images were decorative ornaments: sometimes people came across as human figurines. The emergence of a genuine pictorial writing system dates back to a later era — to the XXII or XXI centuries BC. In Cretan drawing writing, several varieties are distinguished. Signs depict people, parts of the body, pets, plants, weapons, religious symbols, and so on.

It has long been scientists trying to read the Cretan press. But today we can only speculate about the meaning of the symbols depicted on them. Perhaps the Cretan press belonged to the Aegean people - that part of the ancient population of Crete, from whose language several words survive in Greek sources. Perhaps the letter of the Minoans came from the Cretan drawing letter: maybe it makes sense to say that the Aegeans and the Minoans are the same people?

Which way is the disc spinning?

In 1908, during the excavation of the palace in the ancient city of Festa, in Crete, the Italian archaeologist Pernier accidentally came across a small, round-shaped clay object resembling a disk.

On both sides of the disk there were various images, as it turned out, hieroglyphs (written characters of drawing letters). The hieroglyphs were imprinted on the disk with special stamps - thus, the disk is the oldest stamped inscription.

This unique written monument was made in the first half of the 2nd millennium BC. Perhaps his homeland is Crete, but it is possible that he was brought to Crete from outside (for example, from Asia Minor) - some scientists believe that the clay of the variety that went to make a disc was not found in Crete.

The inscription is divided into words and arranged in a spiral, and scientists still do not have a common opinion about the direction of reading the inscription: some believe that the disk was read from the edges to the center, that is, from right to left, others believe that reading began the other way around. In any case, the direction of reading the inscriptions on both sides of the disk was the same.

The hieroglyphs used in the inscription are clearly picturesque in nature: these are images of people, animals, fish, birds, various household items, and the like. These images do not have any clear correspondences in other scripts (in particular, the hieroglyphs of the Phaistos disc have very little in common with the signs of the Cretan drawing letter).

"People are depicted on the disk going to the right side of us: heads are turned to the right (there are hieroglyphs on the disk depicting the

heads of people - with or without a feather headdress)."

The fact that the pictures are looking to the right makes some researchers think that the inscription itself was read from left to right. However, the direction of the signs in ancient inscriptions does not always coincide with the direction of reading the inscriptions themselves.

About the language of the festival disc

What kind of assumptions have been made regarding the language of the inscription of the Phaistos disc! Some thought that the disc was written in Greek, others searched for one of the Asia Minor languages (Hittite, Likimian or Carian) in the inscription, others thought that the inscription was Semitic and so on.

Shortly after the end of the Second World War, a sensational report appeared in a reputable scientific journal. The linguist Shertel made a statement that he was able to read the inscription on the Phaistos disk with the help of mathematical methods of decoding. Schertel discovered the hymn to King Maio in the inscription (that is, Minos: by the way, Evans once thought that the inscription concludes the winning hymn: Evans came to this thought while studying the images on the disk). Excited by the message, the scientists rushed to check the decoding received: however, it turned out to be nothing more than the fruit of unbridled imagination!

In the mid-1960s, one American scientist offered his decoding of the inscription: he read it in Greek, finding lists of cities in it. Two years later, another scientist read the inscription on the disk in Hittite. According to this scientist, the Phaistos disc contained a dedication to the gods.

Old drive - new problems

"A few years ago, the venerable German scientist Ernst Grumah addressed the issue of the Phaistos disc. Grumakh's article is devoted mainly to the corrections that were made to the Phaistos disc shortly after it was stamped. Such corrections were discovered in four places: In places the old thirty-one turned out to be erased, and others were impressed instead. The corrections concern only strictly defined cases: some old signs were replaced with signs depicting a head with feathers or a group of heads with feathers mi + shield. If we proceed from the readings of Ipsen, it can be assumed that some determinatives were replaced by others for some reason. What was this done for?

In the era of information technology, more exotic versions of the designation of the Phaistos disc and the meaning of the inscription on it are being advanced. For example, a hypothesis was proposed that something like a navigation computer was installed on Cretan ships, and the disk was a route map. If this hypothesis is confirmed, then we will have to revise all our ideas about the history of computing technology.

The Phaistos disc still keeps its secret...

Who built the Stone Grave?

Legendary Stone Tomb. Ten minutes from Melitopol. Fantastic jumble of huge boulders. It looks much cooler than the statues from Easter Island and even the famous Inca city Machu Picchu. Not a single scientist in the world has given at least an acceptable version: where did it come from in the steppes of Ukraine?..

Scientists express several versions regarding the occurrence of the Stone Grave. According to one of the most common, stone hill - the

result of the stormy activities of a long-sleeping volcano.

According to another version, it is a gift of a meteorite, scattered on the stones covered with unknown letters from contact with the firmament of the planet. The adherents of the third believe that the sanctuary was created by the waters of the Molochnaya River, which the ancient glaciers that melted in Europe made a fast and deep stream. They allegedly brought with them a huge monolith, which eventually cracked. Pieces of various sizes broke off and crawled to the ground. Many thousands of years ago, a stone hill took on the shape that we can see now.

They say the hill is very similar to a giant tortoise. Those who want to have the opportunity to check it, getting on the bus to Melitopol and in a few hours having made their way into such a depth of thousands of years that even the muse of history forgotten those times...

The legendary grave of Bogur

A man who lived on this earth could not but be interested in a man-made stone complex towering in the steppe. Legends about him, too, were attempts to explain his origin.

We find the first legends about the Stone Tomb near the Nogai steppe tribe, the descendants of the Batu Khan: “Allah once called the bogatyr named Bogur and ordered him to wear stones from the nearest mountain range. Allah demanded to lay a hill of stones so that from its summit it was possible to observe the endless steppes. The elect of Allah set to work, but he soon realized that there was no end to work here and, in order to speed up the process of building a “viewing platform” for God, he resorted to a trick - he began to loosely put stones. Things went faster. But once, carrying to the summit another stone block, Bogur stumbled and fell into the gap between the stones. The bogatyr got stuck

and was no longer able to free himself from stone captivity, so he died without food and water, punished for plotting to outwit the Most High. So a pile of stones acquired the name of Boghur-Dag (Grave of Bogur).

Some scholars, studying the images on the plates of the Melitopol phenomenon and related legends, note that the legend of Bogur is only one of the echoes of the earlier legend of the “steppe Prometheus” that reached us the fire and found the last shelter.

Chronicle of research

The first of the researchers of modern times, the puzzles of Graves, became interested in Russian academician P.I. Köppen In 1837, he recorded: “In one place between the rocks covered with moss, there is a gap like a street 2 or 3 arshins wide, and then there was once a cave entrance, one of my guides, a shepherd as a child, I saw inscriptions on the walls ... The entrance to this cave is covered with sand around 1822. "

It is known that in 1788, at the Stone Grave, the famous commander A.V. Suvorov equipped the post station, guarded by a Cossack outfit.

On the map of the Tauride province in 1793, a mysterious stone hill is designated as Yuyun-Tash, which in Turkish means “collected stone”. There is a version that the hill served as a gathering place for Tatar hordes before raids on Slavic lands.

Then, many years later, at the end of the 19th century, a shepherd from the village of Mirnoye found five silver coins at the Grave. Rumors immediately spread around the county that untold treasures were hidden beneath the sandstone slabs. Lovers of easy money rushed to the hill from all over. The sacred stones began to crush someone with a shovel and pickax, and some with gunpowder. Perhaps the treasure hunters

would have left nothing for their descendants, if during one of the explosions a local peasant was almost killed. The gold rush subsided, but rumors of the Stone Tomb reached the scientists.

In 1890, the famous archeologist Professor N.I. arrived in the Azov region. Veselovsky. His grave was interested as a possible tomb of the Scythian kings. But soon the professor became convinced that there were no burials among the slabs. However, there, in the steppe Zaporozhye, not far from the village of Bolshaya Znamenka, the professor excavated the 18-meter barrow of Solokh and revealed to the world Scythian gold, in particular the world-famous gold crest.

The systematic study of the Stone Tomb by modern historians began in 1932, when the expedition of the Melitopol Museum of Regional Studies began its work. Already in the first years of research, it became clear that man began to explore the territories adjacent to the Tomb, approximately in the VIII millennium BC, that is, a hundred centuries ago! This fact is confirmed by the finds of flint tools of the Neolithic era and ancient settlements. The first was discovered back in 1933, and then it turned out that the whole Stone Tomb was surrounded by ancient settlements. But there is one curious detail: on the very stone hill people never settled and did not bury the dead there. A pile of stones in the middle of the sea of steppe forbs had another purpose - to serve as a sanctuary, a temple, a temple. There, people from the prehistoric period prayed to their gods.

Secret signs

The internal planes of sandstone slabs, the ceilings of the halls and caves are dotted with thousands of ancient drawings, one might even say, plots. The most "fresh" belong to the XI-XII centuries of our era, the oldest appeared 8 thousand years ago, and maybe more. Some works of art of antiquity cause stormy scholarly debate. For example, in a grotto

preserved at the very top of the grave, an image of a mysterious animal was found. Its silhouette is not contoured contours, but represents a kind of depression in the stone. Two long, slightly curved lines depart from the head of the animal. What is it? If the horns, then we have a bull, and if the tusks - a mammoth. It is believed that mammoths died out about 10 thousand years ago, and if you prove that the creature painted by the ancient artist is a mammoth, and then this means that we have the most ancient drawing on the ground.

The themes of the Stone Tomb drawings are very diverse. There is a plot from a group of bulls who occupied the perimeter defense, perhaps from wolves or other unknown predators. There is an image of cows, one after another. Two bulls are pulling a cart, and next the ancient master painted a snake. What did he mean by this, emphasize, express?

In the Stone Grave, the imprints of human feet, which are either restless or just left, were also found, which do not give rest to scientists, and there are no pairs! Many images are combinations of vertical and horizontal lines, circles, rhombuses, squares, crosses. In the so-called Sorcerer's Grotto, there are reminding fishing nets and labyrinth-like patterns. Numerous images of arbas, chariots, and wheels produce an amazing impression. This confirms the once very courageous guess that once seemed that the idea of a wheel - a cart - a cart - a chariot dawned on a man in the steppe...

The grave could die

In the early 50s, studies of the Stone Grave were conducted especially intensively. In connection with the planned construction of the Melitopol Hydroelectric Power Plant, a dam of a hydroelectric power station was to pass through the sanctuary. Scientists were in a hurry, because there was very little time left. A few years earlier, Stonehenge, a Zaporozhye, was ingloriously killed, the ancient fortress Kurcemal, the

mysterious country of Giley, described by Herodotus, thousands of historical monuments that shed light on the ancient history of all mankind, were hidden by the waters of the Kakhovka reservoir. Fortunately, the builders' plans changed, a dam was erected elsewhere, and research continued. And during the time of intensive work, archaeologists managed to find twelve new grottoes and caves in the sanctuary.

The Sumerians were not the first?

According to modern historical doctrine, the Sumerians, who lived about 6 thousand years ago in the lower reaches of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, are considered to be the very first written people on Earth. The Sumerians was the first builders of cities and the first creators of statehood. World literature begins with the poetic words of the Sumerians. Centuries later, spiritually fertilized by Sumer, Egypt, Assyria, Babylon arise...

However, in 1961 in Romania, and, more precisely, in Transylvania, during excavations in a layer seven thousand years old, three clay tablets with inscriptions similar to Sumerian were found. They got the name "plates from Terteria". Just think of the proto-Sumeru inscriptions that are a thousand years older than Sumer himself!

Plates from the Danube basin did not fit into the generally accepted notions about the pace of civilization so much that the discoverer of the letter of Terteria by the Romanian scientist N.Vlass was accused of deliberately mixing up the archaeological layers and deprived of the academic title. The timid statements of the Moscow Sumerologist Anatoly Kifishin that the plates from Terteria and the Sumerian writing originate from one ancient, but not yet open writing, were not perceived by the scientific community. However, later in the Danube basin, in Romania and Hungary, many more similar inscriptions were found. The

study of mysterious tablets led scientists to the study of the Melitopol Stone Graves.

Archaeologist Yuri Shilov, who devoted many years to the study of the Melitopol phenomenon, has good reason to assert that about 8,200 years ago, as a result of natural disasters, the Black Sea and Azov waters flooded the world's first civilization of the Arabs-plowmen, the creators of the world writing system. The main temple, the cultural and spiritual center of this civilization, its sanctuary was the Stone Tomb over the Molochnaya River. In its bold conclusions and assertions Shilov relies on the sensational studies of the Sumerologist Kifishin. In 2001, after a quarter of a century of silence, this scientist published a monograph “The Ancient Sanctuary Stone Grave. Experience in deciphering the proto-Sumer archive of the XII-III millennia BC”, which immediately became a bibliographical rarity.

The oldest book depository in the world

In the XIX century, local peasants told that they saw inscriptions in the grottoes of the Stone Grave. Scientists of that time, who investigated these notches, decided that illiterate villagers took for signs intersecting curved and straight lines. The researchers were interested in concrete images: mammoths, bulls, horses, sailboats, horsemen ... However, illiterate peasants were right!

For several years, starting in 1994, Anatoly Kifishin deciphered more than a hundred texts, the lion's share of which is the “Canon of nine inscriptions” - the basis of the Sumerian myths about the deeds of the gods and the creation of the world.

We are accustomed to thinking that cuneiform writing is an icon resembling bird tracks. But in reality, the “classical” cuneiform was formed only by the XXII-XVIII centuries BC. It was her who inherited the Babylonians, Assyrians and many other nations. But before that, the

Sumerians' letters were drawings in which one can guess the meaning of a word. It was these letters that were deciphered by Anatoly Kifishin in the Stone Grave.

At present, 130 inscriptions-panels inscribed on the ceilings and eaves of grottoes and caves, and 160 stone tablets with inscriptions stored in the four caches of the Stone Grave are known.

References to previous time and, apparently, more authoritative documents are quite curious, for example: "... according to the tablet on the wanderings of Six-headed Capricorn." Exactly the same form of reference was adopted by the Sumerians of the classical Interfluve in the IV-III millennium BC. But what is especially interesting is that tablets with original sources of texts, to which ancient authors refer, were found right there in the recesses of the Stone Grave grottoes.

Proto-Sumerian and Sumerian texts are very difficult to understand. Try to solve, for example, the expression: "Seed, tied to a dead person." But along with the phrase "A man tied up will live" from the inscription follows the logical conclusion that a person continues in his descendants. And how about this: “The deed of the god Enlil by knowing the journey of fate because of the tied seed, be punished” (for seducing a virgin sentenced to exile, “to knowing the fate of a wanderer”). Or “Suhur - Alal” - - the epithet of the god Enlil, the one who seduced the maiden. In terms of the ancient inhabitants of our land, carp - the king of fish, like a lion - the king of animals, the eagle - the king of birds. The fish that fed the coastal inhabitants deserved the title of the king.

In the texts of the Stone Grave there are endless courts: gods and goddesses are judged, gods and goddesses are judged. Judged by "the court of water" - to drown, "by the court of the tree" - to hang, "by the court of the kid" - to kill like a goat. If it were not for the Old Testament analogies, we would be very difficult to understand the proto-Sumerian mythological delights. Remember the biblical "scapegoat?" And how do

you like the fact that the patriarch Abraham is from Ur of the Chaldeans, and Ur was one of the Sumerian capitals.

Anatoly Kifishin in his monograph "The Ancient Sanctuary of the Stone Tomb" states: "While there are no other sources, the Stone Tomb can be considered the oldest archive of the world's oldest letter."

Main question

The finds of the Stone Grave amaze and excite the imagination. But the main question remains, to which so far there is no intelligible answer: how did the creators of the proto-Sumerian letter and native speakers from the Stone Grave find themselves in Sumer? Yuri Shilov believes that at a time when water poured on the ancestral home of the ancient aratov plowmen, the priests were hastily looking for a replacement for the fertile homeland. Modern Ukraine Chernozem was for them the distant cold north. Then, more than eight thousand years ago, the arats found fertile lands in the Lower Mesopotamia and brought the legend of the Flood there. The resettlement took many years, but for a very long time the spiritual center of the mysterious people remained in the old homeland, in the steppe above the Molochnaya River. That is why written monuments - such as the plates of Terteria - are found in the middle of a long road to Sumer. Moreover, Yu. Shilov claims that after thousands of years the descendants of the Black Sea plowmen returned to their ancestral homeland and became the creators of the famous three-Polish culture, or, as it is called in Romania, Cucuteni.

Epilogue

Of course, the point in this story is too early. Stone Tomb keeps so many secrets that enough to smash his head grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Scientists, instead of starting full-scale research, prefer to abstract away from this topic. But there are too many coincidences that this information could be easily ignored under the pretext of unscientific.

The geographical names of rivers and cities coincide with the Sumerians and unknown people who left inscriptions on the stone tablets of the Grave. The peoples, separated by thousands of kilometers, have the same names as gods and goddesses, requests, prayers, and elements of everyday life.

In order to avoid accusations of deliberately incorrect decoding, A. Kifishin attracted other well-known scientists to the community of sumerologists to work together. Their texts are given in his monograph. Differences in translations are very minor. But scientists are still silent...

When in France, on the Cro-Magnon River, the skull of the ancestor of modern man was found, it became a world sensation. When, in the seedy German village of Willendorf, a clay statue of an ancient woman was dug up, she was immediately nicknamed Venus of Willendorf and is still admired, making a lot of money to show the statue to tourists. When Heinrich Schliemann dug up the legendary Troy, the most avid skeptics admitted their defeat.

And the Stone Grave has been waiting for a long time, and when we finally wake up and become worthy of the great secrets hidden in its ancient and mysterious stone belly.

Antarctica 1947 Great Mystery of Ufology

STATION "NOVOLAZAREVSKAYA"

Without dwelling on the biography of this famous (legendary) Soviet polar explorer, attention should be paid to those interested in the important fact that all persons appearing in secret documents regarding the unofficial Soviet (Stalinist) expedition of 1946-47, which concerns us, received their general epaulettes in 1946, just before the start of the trans-ocean campaign to the South Pole (the exception was Vodop'yanov,

demoted from the generals back in the 41st for the actual failure of the strategic bombardment of Berlin, but received its full in five years) - this only emphasizes the importance of this expedition personally for Stalin.

WHAT it took Stalin in distant Antarctica in the first post-war years is another matter that we will soon begin to study, but these needs were no less significant than for the American President Truman, who sent a rear ward of his own polar wolf, Rear Admiral Richard Byrd If someone wants to believe that the American fleet suffered a defeat from some "unknown forces", then the easiest way to assume is that these "unknown forces" were precisely Papanin’s naval forces.

It is well known that the Lazarev research station on the shores of Queen Maud Land was founded by our polar explorers in 1951, but this is only an official point of view, and for a long time only a few people were supposed to know the truth.

In 1951, Papanin was already in Moscow, where he was given an important government award for no one knows exactly what merit, and the honorary and responsible post of head of one of the departments of the USSR Academy of Sciences - the department of Maritime expeditionary works, and this post, by the way, is much more important than that which Papanin held until 1946, being the head of the Northern Sea Route:

one can perfectly understand that in the new field, Ivan Dmitrievich had a great opportunity to contend with all intelligence agencies in the world - under his command there was practically all of the USSR naval intelligence.

Such a position could be “bought” only by such services to “the party and the people”, which few could boast of — Marshal Zhukov, for example. But Papanin, unlike the legendary marshal, did not spend a single day on the front line, although he was listed as an admiral in the

armed forces. Meanwhile, he had the chance to win the only battle in history between the Soviet Navy and the United States Navy at the very beginning of the clearly marked Cold War and not lead to a new world massacre. And it happened precisely in the first days of March 1947, at the 70th parallel, near the secretly founded Soviet naval base, which later became known as "Lazarevskaya" and in all the world reference books it is referred to only as "research" ...

Eight years ago, the memoirs of one Vladimir Kuznetsov, a member of the first Soviet Antarctic Inspectorate under the auspices of the USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology of the USSR, which carried out an inspection raid on all Antarctic research stations in 1990, were published in Gidromet publishing house. Treaty of Antarctica. In the chapter describing a visit to the Soviet station Novolazarevskaya (formerly Lazarevskaya) there are such lines:

"... The Schirmacher Oasis, where Novolazarevskaya is located, is a narrow chain of icy hills similar to camel humps. In the depressions between the hills there are numerous small lakes, reflecting a seemingly serene Antarctic sky on a sunny day.

Novolazarevskaya, I think, is the most comfortable and most habitable of all our stations in Antarctica. Strong stone buildings on concrete stilts are picturesquely situated on brown hills and delight the eye with their phantasmagoric coloring. The houses are very warm. In addition to diesel, energy give numerous windmills. There are about four hundred winterers here, in the summer - up to a thousand or more, very many with families. The station is equipped with a wonderful airfield - the oldest airfield in Antarctica and the only one that has metal-coated lanes and concrete parking hangars. On a rocky hill located between two very large lakes - the cemetery of polar explorers.

The long-written off all-terrain vehicle "Penguin", driven by a mischievous mechanic to the top of a hill, became a monument, which

was even depicted on a postage stamp. I climbed the hill. The memorial cemetery is not inferior to many famous cemeteries of the world, Novodevichy, for example, or even Arlington. I was surprised to see a four-blade propeller poured into a concrete pedestal at the tomb of the pilot Chilingarov and the date of burial: March 1, 1947.

But my questions remain unanswered - the current leadership of Novolazarevskaya has no idea about the station’s activities in that far year. This, apparently, is already a matter of historians ... "

Kuznetsov, undoubtedly, turned out to be right - this is the business of historians. But his book was published more than ten years ago, and none of these same historians have ever bothered to explain to the world what it was that at the very beginning of 1947 in Antarctica a four-blade propeller, "obviously belonged to a Soviet aircraft."

As it was possible to establish later, the propeller, "obviously belonged to a Soviet aircraft," was a product of the American firm Bell. Along the way, it turned out that during the Great Patriotic War, Captain A.V. Chilingarov served in the ferry aviation division, which was engaged in delivering aircraft under the Lend-Lease (* 36) to the Soviet-German front. The commander of this division was the polar explorer already known to us - Air Force Colonel I. P. Mazuruk, and this division served the longest and heaviest ALSIB aviation route in the world (shortened from Alaska to Siberia).

P-63 "KINGKOBRA"

Of all the aircraft that had been supplied by Americans in the USSR during the war, only four aircraft types were equipped with Bell four propellers from Bell. They were fighters of the same company, P-63 King Cobra.

The Kingcobra, in contrast to the more famous, though less sophisticated, Air Cobra, was made by the Americans exclusively on the Soviet order and in accordance with Soviet technical requirements. It is not surprising that the Americans themselves always considered the P-63 to be a “Russian plane”, since almost the entire “circulation” of this aircraft settled in the USSR (it was never adopted for use in America itself because of the similar types of fighters in the US Air Force "Mustang", "Corsair" and some others).

Possessing a very high speed, long range and decent practical ceiling, the P-63 was a great interceptor, but since by the time supplies began, the war was clearly nearing its end, no one vehicle of this type got to the front - Stalin fighters for other cases.

The Kingcobras, in the words of one of the memoirists of that time, could have become Stalin’s Main Reserve in the event of an unpredictable change in the military-political situation and the outbreak of war by the United States. They were equipped with all parts of the Soviet air defense - of all the fighters in service in the Soviet Union, only the Kingcobra could “get” in the sky the main strategic bomber of the United States - the B-29 “Super Strength”.

Thus, by 1947, all 2,500 P-63 fighters that fell into the hands of Stalin were in full combat readiness. Naturally, these aircraft participated in all the obvious and secret operations of the Soviet Air Force during this period and one of them was precisely the first Soviet Antarctic expedition under the leadership of Admiral Papanin.

As anyone interested, Kingkobra was the best fit for “work” in difficult and even very difficult weather conditions, including polar ones. During the war, absolutely all of the P-63s were surpassed on their own by ALSIBU (from the USA to the USSR), and on all this most complicated route, more than five thousand kilometers long (excluding

the flight to the Bering Strait over Alaska), out of 2500 were surpassed in the fall of 1944 th - in the spring of 1945, our pilots lost only 7 of them - an indicator is simply phenomenal, considering that other types of aircraft on the way to the front were lost incomparably more.

What difficulties did the racers face over the immense Siberian expanses that looked more like the icy deserts of Antarctica at this time of the year can be imagined from the memories of I. Mazuruk himself. Here are his words, taken from the book of memoirs, published in 1976:

"In December 1944, a group of 15 Kingcars, led by me, due to the fact that the airport of destination Seymchan closed with fog, had to be put on the ice of the Kolyma River near the village of Zyryanka ... The thermometer showed -53 * Celsius, and we had heaters naturally, it wasn't. But in the morning, the whole group flew off safely thanks to flight mechanics of the A-20 leader Gennady Sultanov, who called on local residents for help. Due the same Sultanov invented in emergency situations to use ordinary squibs for quick warming up..."

By the way, the Americans never thought of this before. However, they had their own factory-made heaters, moreover, on each of their aircraft, unlike us, there were literally ten technicians and mechanics, each of whom serviced a certain part of the equipment. Almost all Kingcobras set up in the USSR were equipped with a radio compass, which greatly facilitated navigation at night and in the clouds, and in 1945 began to receive options equipped with search radar stations, which allowed not only to fly "blindly", but also to go on targets located in 50-70 kilometers beyond the horizon, as well as some devices that signal a sudden attack from behind.

The improved engine start system significantly expanded the range of "operating temperatures", and the domestic-made KM-10 oxygen mask allowed the pilot to feel excellent at altitudes up to 16 km (16 km

is a theoretical ceiling, almost 12 km, which was fine in those conditions) .

So, we can definitely see that the Kingcobra, if not the ideal combat aircraft for the Antarctic theater of operations, is in any case the most adapted among the many others that existed at that time all over the world. In any case, Stalin, according to the most informed historians, did not have the best until the launch of the reactive MiG-15. Considering the rich experience of the famous Mazuruk in polar affairs, in general, and the successful operation of the Kingcobra in the most severe conditions of Chukotka and Siberia in particular, we can safely assume that as early as 1946 this “man and hero”, having received from the hands of Joseph Vissarionovich general braces, commanded a highly effective air defense system of the then Soviet Antarctic military base on Queen Maud Land.

War of the Scarlet and White Rose

One of the brightest English dynasties of England - Plantagenets originates from one of the branches of the Anjou dynasty (France). The name Plantagenet comes from the name of the flower planta genista, which has long been the emblem of the Count of Anjou.

Plantagenets ruled Normandy, Gascony, Hyeni and England. The father of Richard the Lionheart became the first of the Plantagenets king of England. It was he who stopped the baronous strife and created a strong centralized power. But the power of the Plantagenets did not last long, by 1399 it had faded away and two branches of the descendants of the darkened great dynasty, the Yorks and Lancaster, began to fight for the throne. In the coat of arms of York was a white rose, while Lancaster - red. Therefore, the war between them, which lasted thirty years, received the name - the war of the Scarlet and White Rose.

The main support for the Lancaster was provided by the barons, and the nobles, the feudal lords and the new nobility helped the Yorks. The fighting was carried out with varying success for both sides, but in 1461, the Lancaster suffered a tremendous defeat and ceded the royal throne to the Yorks. The first York king of England was Edward IV (1442-1483). Part of his reign came to the war of the Scarlet and White Rose, but he was considered the king who brought peace to England. After the sudden death of Edward IV, royal power passed to his brother Richard III. But by his actions and decisions, he restored the most influential people of that time against himself and, as a result of the betrayal of his comrades, died on the battlefield (the Battle of Bosworth). The marriage of the next king, Henry VII of the Lancaster dynasty on Elizabeth, York finally united the Scarlet Rose and the White Rose and completed the long-standing power struggle of the two clans. The Thirty Years' War devastated the ranks of the British aristocracy. For the rest of the population, this war did not cause any tangible damage.

But will back to the times of King Edward IV. Shakespeare described this monarch as a kind and weak person. But the writer was wrong. King Edward IV adhered to the basic life principle of "Kill or you will be killed!" And on his conscience a lot of aristocrats who were close to the throne were destroyed by his order. The sudden death of Edward IV, was long hidden by his wife, because the question of who to appoint as regent was decided until the eldest of the sons of the deceased king, 12-year-old Edward, would come of age. The youngest son of the king - Richard, at this time, was only ten years old. But King’s brother Richard was not going to give up his position, he understood that he would save life only in one case - if he himself became king. In June 1483, it was announced that the children of King Edward IV were illegitimate, since the king himself was a female double mother, and therefore his children lost the right not only to the English throne, but to the entire father's inheritance. Both princes settled in the Tower.

After the coronation of their uncle, Richard, no one heard about the boys anymore. How did the fate of these children? Some said that the sons of the former king were alive. Even impostors appeared who appropriated the names of Richard and Edward, claiming their rights to the royal throne. There is a testimony of a certain James Tyrrel, commandant of the fort of Kale fortress. He confessed to the murder of the children of King Edward IV. Tyrrel claimed that by order of King Richard III (boys' uncles), he and his henchmen killed the children and buried them under a staircase in the Tower, piling on top of a pile of stones.

Only in 1676 the remains of the little princes were buried in Westminster Abbey. In 1933, the examination of these remains was carried out, and she confirmed that they belong to children of 12-15 years old, who were in close relationship.

There is a version that the order to kill the brothers was given not by Richard III, but by his successor Henry VII. This he solved two problems: he ruined the reputation of Richard III and concealed his own crime. This version is confirmed by the fact that if the children died on the orders of Richard III, they were 10-12 years old, which means that the uncle would not kill his nephews. In this case, the true killer was the king of the Tudor dynasty - Heinrich.

There are no records of Heinrich Tudor capable of shedding light on this mysterious and terrible story, the king was famous for his maniacal secrecy. It was under Tudor that they tried to hide as much as possible the information about the short rule of Richard III.

It is known that Richard III took measures to protect British manufacturers from foreign competitors, patronized trade. I read a lot, which was, however, usually for the monarchs of that time. With him, a

large library appeared in the royal apartments. The court musicians delighted the wonderful game of the king's guests. Shakespeare, describing the times of Richard III was largely mistaken. For example, with his wife, Anna Neville, he lived a long 13 happy years. And although she died shortly before the death of her husband, his fault in this certainly was not. Perhaps her life span shortened the longing for her deceased, at the age of ten, her only son, Eduard.

And although Richard III mercilessly dealt with the lords guilty of conspiracy against royal power, Heinrich Tudor, in comparison with him, was a real monster: he massively sent aristocrats and their families to the scaffold. Henry VII executed and the Duke of Buckingham, whose treachery had elevated him to the throne. It was also harder for ordinary people to live under Heinrich Tudor - annual tax increases, forced relocation to new lands. Thousands of beggars roamed the roads of England, who were caught by order of the king and executed. The greedy Tudor ceased to give out his bread to those served in the famine, and did not reduce the tax in the lean years. All this led to the fact that the British began to recall with nostalgia the times of the reign of Richard III of their dynasty of York.

Unfortunately, Shakespeare joined those who built the slander of the late King Richard III. There are the famous English philosopher, lawyer and humanist writer Thomas More, from whose pen came out the book "The Story of Richard III." Thomas More was not a corrupt scribbler and he considered mixing with the mud of Richard III his duty as a true humanist and fighter against tyrants. Dislike of Richard III Thomas Mora instilled in his mentor Cardinal John Morton, who hated the king. The fact that Mor was not entirely sure of the rumors spread about Richard III indicate words written by him: "Everything was done in secret at that time, one spoke, the other implied, so there was nothing clear and openly proved." However, in the work of Thomas More, Richard III looks like a moral monster with great physical disabilities.

Ironically, Thomas More was waiting for a fate similar to the one that had been slandered by the king — execution and destruction of his memory. Mora was executed by order of Henry VIII, the son of Tudor. His book came under a strict ban for a long time. Some pages from it were copied by other English authors-historians. Even Shakespeare took advantage of the book by Thomas More when writing many of his plays, including Richard III. Shakespeare's play has found numerous spectators. For Richard III the role of the murderer was fixed. As historical studies have shown, Richard III deserved a better fate in the eyes of future generations, and perhaps it was time to tell the truth to the monarch.

King Arthur and the legendary island of Avalon

The legend of the English King Arthur and his Round Table is known to many. But did all this really happen? And where was the mysterious island of Avalon, where the legendary king lived? Did it exist? After all, it is not on any map. It turns out that these issues are inextricably linked.

In the memory of mankind there are three kings of Arthur - Arthur from history, from legends and from knightly novels, with one image smoothly flowing into another. Therefore, it is rather difficult to separate historical truth from fiction, given the antiquity of the legends that appeared in the 6th century.

By the beginning of the III c. the Romans conquered the British Isles and owned them until the beginning of the V century. Less than half a century, as the Germanic tribes fell upon Britain. Then the tribes of Britons and the remnants of the descendants of the Romans united and began to fight the invaders. However, by 1600 the conquest of the main part of the island was completed.

About these times and tell stories about Arthur, who became the hero that led the fight against the conquerors. Despite its failure, the legend sends the wounded king to the magical island of Avalon, the path to which opens a few.

Elves and fairies live on this island, time passes there so slowly that the heroes of legends probably still live in a paradise, not realizing that one and a half thousand years passed over the planet.

There are so many rumors about the legend about Arthur that it is fitting to get completely confused. Some of the mystics of the Middle Ages believed that Avalon was not lost in the physical, but in the sacred sense of the word. Like the Russian Kitezh, he passed into another magical dimension and disappeared from the eyes of the people.

Many historians of the XIX century explained the disappearance of Avalon much more prosaically, considering that the cause of the death of the island was a banal flood. In support of their hypothesis, they related to the XI century. a true story about a very low island in the English Channel, protected by dykes and locks. One day, after some celebrations, the drunken guards forgot to close them, and unrestrained water covered the island. So that Avalon could suffer the same fate.

Quite unexpectedly, Hans Christian Andersen spoke on this topic (albeit in a veiled form). In a rather creepy tale "Ven and Glen," he describes two twin islands. Once, Wen was swallowed up, and since then, the people of Glen went to sleep in horror, expecting the sea to come next night as well.

And Glen really disappeared, but because it merged with the mainland, connected to it by bulk structures. This could happen with Avalon, if it was located close to the shores of Britain.

However, not only European scientists were interested in the history of Avalon. M.A. Orlov in his book The History of Man’s Intercourse with the Devil (1904) writes that Avalon was often described by the ancient poets of France. In the poem about William Kurnos, it says that Avalon was extremely rich.

Its walls were made of some special stone, the doors were ivory, the dwellings were lavishly decorated with precious stones, and the roofs were of gold.

There magic medicine flourished, cured the most terrible diseases and wounds. In one of the old novels, this island is described as a place where all inhabitants spend time in an eternal celebration, without worries and sorrows. The word "Avalon" was brought together with the words of the ancient Breton language "Inis Afalon", which means - "Apple Island".

Different opinions about the mysterious island are expressed by modern writers. But all these are hypotheses that make it impossible to reveal the secret of Avalon. However, the small Glastonbury Abbey in the very west of Great Britain provides an answer to many questions: English archaeologists discovered a grave with the bodies of Arthur and his wife Guinevere in it.

Sprawling on the vast plains of Somerset, this complex now includes a city, an abbey and a huge, terraced descent down volcanic rock. The area surrounding the city used to look like an island because of the countless swamps that did not dry up until the 16th century.

It should be noted that people lived here since the era of the Roman invasion of the islands. It is also believed that in the lands of Glastonbury for a long period there was a serpentine temple of the Druid

priests.

In the Middle Ages, monks erected here a magnificent monastery of St.. Michael When an earthquake destroyed it, a church grew in its place, the remains of which have survived to this day. According to legend, Glastonbury Mountain is the place where Arthur once lived, as well as the secret entrance to the underworld of the sovereign of the elves.

It is believed that in the VI. Saint Collen, who sought to end demonism, entered here. He performed an exorcism rite, and from contact with the holy water, the elven palace disappeared with a roar, leaving the devotee alone on the empty top.

Another legend associated with the so-called the well of the Holy Grail at the foot of the mountain. It is said that at one time Saint Joseph threw the cup here, which Jesus used during the Last Supper.

Many tried to find a precious magic item, but no one managed to do it. According to folk lore, King Arthur’s Round Table broke up just because the Holy Grail disappeared from the human world.

The well itself was built by the druids from huge stone blocks, treated with the greatest care. 113 thousand l are poured out of it every day red ferrous water, which, according to popular belief, has magical properties.

In general, the rock in Glastonbury is a very strange place, even from the point of view of modern science. Very often, at night, locals witness an extraordinary spectacle.

Suddenly, pale bluish lights appear in the air, which for hours rush around the church ruins. Some attribute their appearance to UFOs, others

to the magnetic energy of the rock.

Abbey is a unique historical object. At one time, the ritual actions of the druids who worshiped snakes were performed here. Then they were replaced by the Romans, and after they left, the witch communities (living here today) are firmly settled.

But the most significant mark was left, of course, by Christians. According to legend, Joseph of Arimathea (who buried Christ) moved to Glastonbury and built the first church in Great Britain here.

On the ruins of the abbey, black thorns bloom every Easter. People say that when Joseph ascended a rock after his arrival, he leaned on a staff during prayer. Once he forgot it there, and the staff turned into a tree.

It has taken root, and since then, Glastonbury blackthorn serves as a local landmark. The most revered saint in Ireland - Patrick - also lived and died among the local monks.

The date of foundation of the monastery is considered to be 705 g. It was then that King Aine created a monastery by decree, and in the tenth century. here the Benedictines settled.

Church ruins belong to the XIII century. They remained from the temple, destroyed in the XVI century. by order of King Henry VIII during his struggle with English Catholicism.

As the last resting place of Arthur and his wife, Glastonbury gained fame from the twelfth century. Until that time, the authenticity of this was confirmed only by legends. So, Escalibur - Arthur's legendary sword, thrown by Sir Bedouir at the request of the king who was mortally wounded at the battle of Cumlen, could be drowned in the local

lake Pomparles. Unfortunately, this once vast reservoir is now drained and it is no longer possible to verify the validity of the dandies.

A great misfortune (which, however, brought some benefit) occurred in 1184. A terrible fire destroyed the abbey then almost to the ground, but during the reconstruction the monks engaged in a large-scale search for Arthur’s grave.

In 1190 she was found. Thoroughly knocking the stone slabs of the floor, the Benedictines discovered, at a depth of three meters - below the modern masonry - even older with a hollow chamber in it. To the gaze of the monks, two huge coffins appeared, soaked in wood-preserving resins.

The archives of the abbey kept a detailed report on the inspection of the bodies of the deceased. The skeleton of the man was striking in his tall stature - 225 cm. His skull was damaged, but the cause of the injury could not be established. On the head of the woman perfectly preserved blond hair.

The leadership of the monastery ordered a ceremonial reburial and put up a large lead cross with the inscription: "Here, on the island of Avalon, the glorified King Arthur rests underground." In 1278 the remains of the monarch were re-buried in a special tomb of beautiful black marble.

The first modern scientific research in Glastonbury began in 1907. The historian-archaeological expedition was led by the English scientist Frederick Bond and discovered the remains of an unknown chapel.

Having compared its geographical position with the general plan of the abbey, Bond came to the conclusion that it was built according to the laws of the sacred geometry of the ancient Egyptians, and later of the Freemasons.

However, Bond had the imprudence to publicly state that he received all the instructions for searching for antiquities with the help of mediums, communicating with the souls of departed monks. A major scandal broke out, and Bond was fired.

Only many years later, the results of his research were rethought in the light of new scientific data. As it turned out, Bond showed in his report the energy link between Glastonbury and Stonehenge.

T.N. the line "lei" (the place of bursts of energy of unknown origin) connects these two places, passing parallel to the ancient road. This line is popularly called Tod Line in the people - literally "dead line", or "the path of dead people."

In English folklore, Tod Lyne denotes the path of spirits, which the dead follow to the afterlife. Arthur’s burial site is located on this line.

The next attempt to uncover the riddle of Glastonbury was made in the 20s. Twentieth century. For London scientists, an ancient observatory (otherwise - Star Temple), located south of the abbey, remained a secret behind seven seals.

It represents 12 huge signs of the zodiac, artfully laid out on the ground. The description of this object is first met by John Dee (1527-1608) - the famous astrologer and medium of Queen Elizabeth I.

And in 1929, the Star Temple was re-examined by sculptor Catherine Maltwood. She was known in the circle of the British intelligentsia primarily as an illustrator of The High History of the Holy Grail, a historical-mystical work written in 1199 in Glastonbury. Scrutinizing the astrological figures, Meltwood, in The Temple of the Stars in Glastonbury, attempted to associate them with the characters of

the Arturov epic.

So, she associates the magic figure of Merlin with the constellation Capricorn; King Arthur - with Sagittarius, and Guinevere - with the Virgin. Glastonbury Abbey itself is a sign of Aquarius, symbolizing the arrival of a new enlightened era.

At the end of the twentieth century the English scientists, having gathered together the accumulated knowledge, decided once and for all to give an answer to all the questions that Glastonbury had posed to them for more than a thousand years. Archaeologists conducted a re-opening of the grave of Arthur, and the information of the abbey chronicle was fully confirmed!

Scientists were not only engaged in the black tomb, but also studied the earliest burial chamber, discovered by monks in 1190. Skeletons of Arthur and Guinevere were sent for a medical examination, which dated the remains of the 5th-6th centuries a time when the legendary king lived. Doubt no more...

Epimenides - Greek Prophet

The history of ancient Hellas is full of myths and legends. Sometimes they are so skillfully intertwined with reality that it is very difficult to understand what has happened and what has been invented about over the centuries. Get at least the famous Hercules. Some researchers believe that once there was, in fact, a strong man who so impressed the people of Hellas with his power that they invented a special biography for him. Say, he was the son of the god Zeus and an ordinary mortal woman, and therefore he was able to accomplish 12 feats, each of which is beyond the power of a mere mortal. ...

Another example of such a semi-legendary personality is the ancient Greek prophet Epimenides. Historians are even confused in the dates of his birth and death. Most sources point to VII or VI century BC. e. But if we consider that in the same sources it is stated that he lived for about 350 years, it is difficult to establish the time frame of his life.

True, it is known that Epimenides was born on the island of Crete - the reserved territory of the all-powerful Zeus. That is why some historians call him Epimenides of Crete. His homeland is called the city of Festus, then he moved to Knossos.

However, his countrymen, it seems, did not particularly complain. In any case, his famous paradoxical statement came to us: “All Creteans are liars.” But since Epimenides himself was a Cretan, it means that he, too, is a liar, and his statement is wrong. However, if it is incorrect, then not all Cretans are liars ...

They say that this logical "Cretan paradox" did not give rest to many learned minds. So, the philosopher Chrysippus (III century BC) wrote three books about him, and his colleague and contemporary Filet Konossky, without overcoming a logical problem, they say, even committed suicide.

However, Epimenides became famous before this incident. This is what he wrote about miraculous events that changed the life of a young man, Diogen Laertsky (3rd century BC) in his work "On the life, teachings and sayings of famous philosophers." According to the legends that reached Diogenes, in a tender youth, the future sage together with his father was herding sheep in the vastness of his native island. One sheep strayed from the herd, and the father sent the young man to find her. Epimenides went in search.

Half a day he wandered around the island, tired and lay down to

rest. Some sources say that he fell asleep in the shade of a grove, others indicate that he found the refreshing coolness of the midday heat in a cave. One way or another, but he slept for about half a century, since it was either a grove, or a cave, of course, was enchanted.

However, on waking Epimenides did not suspect anything, since he remained as young as he had fallen asleep. Here are just his searches were unsuccessful. Towards evening, not finding the sheep, he returned to the flock, but did not find him or his father in the place. Then he went home, but he found that other people lived in the house. And no one in the city recognized him ... Only one old man recognized him and was surprised: “How are you still alive? ..”

The questioner turned out to be the younger brother of Epimenides, and told that the parents mourned the missing son 50 years ago.

And only then Epimenides realized: something unusual happened to him. And it soon became clear that he was now able to foresee the future. In addition, he was able to lucidly interpret old events, often saw in them special signs hidden from the eyes of a mere mortal, and explained all this to people.

The fame of his wisdom spread to the environs, and Epimenides was honored as the elect of the gods. Plutarch wrote that the sage comprehended "the science of deity, perceived by inspiration and sacraments."

Epimenidus visited many places of Ancient Hellas and everywhere left a good memory for himself, helping people with his wise advice. In addition, he managed to do poetry and philosophy, creating many works, among which were the epic poems about the birth of the gods, the journey of the Argonauts in search of the Golden Fleece, and the prose works “On Sacrifices in the Cretan State System”, “On Minos and

Radamanfa” and much more.

Epimenidus had exceptional performance, because according to legend, he did not sleep at all (apparently, he slept in a cave for the rest of his life) and did not eat much. In any case, Diogenes reports that no one has ever seen Epimenides after a meal or asleep. Therefore, the sage had enough time to create his works. And in rare free minutes he collected herbs and made a special potion from them, which was very useful when Hellas suffered a plague epidemic.

In the VI century BC in Athens, people died one by one so quickly that the corpses did not have time to remove them from the streets. Few still alive asked for help from the Delphic oracle. Pythia (the prophetess) said that it was necessary to clear the city; otherwise it would disappear from the face of the earth, and advised to turn to Epimenides.

The Athenians equipped a ship to Crete, to the city of Knossos, where Epimenides lived at that time. He came and saved the city. An interesting way to which his resorted. The former shepherd ordered to collect a variety of sheep of black and white color, and then release them from the sacred Ares hill. And where a sheep lies down, there sacrifice it.

The plague ceased, and the grateful Athenians even erected a monument to their savior. They also offered Epimenides a lot of money, as well as a good ship as a gift, so that he could return to Crete without any problems. However, for his help he took only the branch of the sacred olive from that tree, which, according to legends, Athena itself grew. And besides this, he suggested that the elders establish peaceful relations between the Athenians and the inhabitants of Knossos, acting, thus, also as a skilled diplomat.

In addition, before leaving Athens, Epimenides predicted to its inhabitants that in ten years the Persians would attack them. The

Athenians themselves were very much afraid of this and were expecting an attack even earlier. But the soothsayer reassured neither them, saying that the invaders would not be able to achieve their goal neither tomorrow nor ten years from now. So it happened.

Information about the future life of Epimenides is very scarce. Thus, Diogenes reports that after the feat in Athens, Epimenides returned to his native island and "soon died." How to regard this "soon" is unknown. After all, the legends say that the sage lived very much - one hundred and fifty years (according to the book Phlegon "On long-livers"), and in Crete there were rumors that all three hundred or even three hundred fifty.

However, myths also claimed that Epimenides grew old very quickly. “He became decrepit on as many days as he had overslept,” says Diogenes Laertsky, referring to one Theopompus, author of The Amazing Stories.

One way or another, but one thing is certain: Epimenides' contemporaries highly respected and revered him. In some sources it is counted among the famous seven sages who entered under such a common name in all textbooks of philosophy. The list of these seven at different authors varied greatly - there were obviously more than seven worthy ones. The fact that Epimenides in some versions falls into it, says a lot - it means that he really was one of the most respected and well-known thinkers of that era.

Battle of snakes and birds

In religious teachings, magic, and the so-called "occult sciences," the most important positions are usually encrypted with symbols. The secret meaning of this symbolism is open only to a few initiates. The

catastrophe we are talking about has also been reflected in this system of esoteric symbols.

Suffice it to say that in Christianity, according to the testimony of some theologians, even the ritual of baptism through water is, as it were, a symbolic repetition of the flood into which humanity was once plunged.

In a more complex form, the symbolism of this event appears in other religious and esoteric systems.

The cosmogonic myth, which can be found in the religions of the peoples of different continents, asserts that once, before the emergence of land, everything covered the ocean in which a certain Primary Beginning lived in the form of a serpent. Being a symbol of the ocean and big water in general, the serpent (or dragon) personified cosmic chaos - the original state of the world before life began. He also became a symbol of the return to this initial state, a symbol of the destruction of life, a symbol of catastrophe and a flood. One of the Babylonian cuneiform texts, the year when the flood occurred, calls the "year of the roaring dragon."

In Indian mythology, a reasonable start, guiding the life and development of the world, is opposed by antagonistic power, also in the form of a giant snake. This is the Serpent of the World Abyss, which seeks to plunge the world into a state of primary chaos. Once this snake, dwelling in the World Ocean, stole the Earth and plunged with it to the bottom. Lord Vishnu, after fighting with the serpent, freed the earth and again raised it above the surface of the water. It is likely that this allegorically pronounced memory of the sinking of some land is a reflection of the disaster, which was accompanied by a huge flood. The serpent, as we see, is a symbol of disaster and acts as the beginning, opposing the god of the sun.

In Egypt, the beginning, opposed to world order, was also a serpent, or "cosmic dragon." Sometimes he performed the image of the serpent Apophis, personifying the destructive forces of darkness, sometimes the serpent - the god of waters bringing floods, or the god Seth, personifying the blind forces of nature, who also took the image of the serpent. Many ritual papyri contain extensive and violent curses against the "space serpent" of Apophis. “Back, scoundrel!” We read in the Book of the Dead. “Go back to the depths of the Abyss, where your father ordered you to be and where you should be destroyed! Do not approach this place where Ra is ...”. And again, the serpent - a symbol of water and chaos - opposes the sun god Ra, the bearer of life and order.

According to the ideas of the ancient Egyptians, each time at sunset and at dawn, Apophis tries to sink the boat, in which the sun god swims across the sky. And whenever the sun pierced through the clouds, in ancient Egypt say that it was the god Ra who defeated the serpent of Apophis, and in the sacred basin of Heliopolis they cast spells to ensure the victory of light over darkness.

Jewish mythology also speaks of a certain serpent Nakhash, who lived in the original ocean of the universe. He was the embodiment of forces hostile to the supreme god Yahweh, who was the beginning of order and made sure that the Sun, Moon and constellations were in their places. In the Babylonian mythology in the form of a serpent, we meet Tiamat, with whom the winged supreme solar god Marduk fights. A similar idea is known in Indonesia and China, where the symbol of the flood was the dragon Kun-Kun.

In America, the god of the waters of Tlaloc, who brought floods, was also portrayed as a serpent. In other cases, he acted in the form of a horned serpent or the Great Serpent Akomenaki, but invariably all in the same role - as a symbol of flooding and deluge. Some researchers believe

that this symbol is not of American origin. “One and the same basic idea,” wrote one of them, “as, for example, the function of the serpent as god of waters reached America in an infinite number of images — in Egyptian, Babylonian, Indian, Indonesian, Chinese, and Japanese. And of all this multitude, the local Central American priesthood built a system of ideas that is purely American, although most of the constituent parts and principles of composition were taken from the Old World ... "

Since the Sun is usually personified as a bird, the struggle of these principles is depicted as the confrontation of two symbols - the snake and the bird. Coming from the cults of the Middle East, the image took its place in the Christian church symbolism. It can be found among the stained glass windows and frescoes of medieval temples. In India, this symbol appears in the image of the sacred bird Garuda with the serpent of the waters of Naga in its claws. In Japanese mythology, we meet the sacred bird of Peng carrying a snake.

This symbol is not, however, the property only of the Old World. The image of fighting snakes and birds flew over the ocean and hit America. Today, it can be seen even in the national flag of Mexico.

Sometimes the symbol of the bird - the Sun is the winged disc. It was a sign consisting of two elements: a circle from the Sun and wings from a bird. Thus, the ancient Egyptian god Horus, taking the form of a falcon, depicted in the form of a winged disc, attacks Seth. The fight ends with the fact that Seth "turned into a roaring snake that hid in a hole in the ground." In Babylon, in the form of a Winged Disc, the supreme god Bel was depicted, also in the battle with the serpent, the symbol of water. In India, the winged disc is the symbol of Vishnu, the winner of the serpent of the flood.

The sign of the Winged Disc is found both in Polynesia, and among the Egyptians, and among the Hittites, and in South America, and Maya,

and in Assyria. And everywhere he had a single meaning, one meaning: the victory of the vital principle over the destruction and chaos of the waters.

So the cosmic catastrophe that has once befallen our earth, in encrypted form, appears in the form of a struggle between a snake and a bird, a snake and a winged disk.

The Stray Dead of Jordan

The funeral rituals that existed 9000 years ago in the settlement of Shkarat Msayyad, puzzled even worldly-minded archaeologists. Judging by the latest findings, the ancient dead had a very hectic life. Shkarat Mnyyad is a Neolithic farmers' settlement found in Jordan, 16 kilometers from the famous Petra.

Excavations have been conducted here since 1999 by the Danish-Jordanian archaeological expedition (Shkarat Msaied University of Copenhagen). Other Neolithic settlements, Ba'ja, Basta, and Beida, were found not far from Shkarat Msayyad, but scientists did not come across anything like Shkarat Msayad’s finds before.

In the view of archaeologists, local funeral customs in the pre-ceramic Neolithic era looked like this: first, the inhabitants of Shkarat Msayad waited for the body of the deceased to decompose to the bone, and then subjected the skeletons to very non-standard manipulations. The remains were disassembled into its component parts, then the bones were sorted by type, the resulting "sets" were put in burial chambers (lined with a stone in the floor) and, finally, covered the entire structure with a stone slab and earth. All bones were stored under the floor of residential buildings.

Obviously, the different stages of the ritual took place in different places, that is, the remains of the deceased in disassembled form traveled for some time throughout the settlement. "I am sure that before the burial in the house the corpses were fully or almost completely brought to the skeleton," said anthropologist Marie Louise Jorkov of the University of Copenhagen in an interview with Haaretz website. Otherwise, explained Yorkie, the smell of decomposition inside the house would be unbearable. In addition, a similar method of burial allows to place the remains of several people in one sarcophagus.

According to the latest data, the "disassembled" skeletons found in Shkarat Msayad belonged to 70 different individuals. “We don’t yet know who each other had people buried together. If they were not relatives, it is not clear by what principle the bones were selected for joint burial. Apparently, at the time of the burial in Shkarat Msiad, the bodies were at different stages of decomposition - this may indicate that not all the dead were residents of the settlement. Perhaps the corpses were brought here from other places so that the deceased could become part of the community after the burial, "Moritz Kinzel, head of the expedition to the Dats, shared his assumptions second side of the Department of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies, University of Copenhagen.

The most interesting feature of the ritual is sorting bones. Almost all the skeletons were disassembled into “typical parts” - for example, in one “set” there were only skulls, in the other - only long bones of the legs, and so on. Such “sets” were then buried under the floor of residential buildings.

"The burial of the dead inside or near the house usually indicates that the living want to keep their dead nearby. Perhaps in this way they allowed the departed to remain part of the daily life of the community," says York.

But there is another version: “By dividing the bodies into component parts, the living wanted to make sure that the dead would not return - neither in their appearance, nor in the form of someone like zombies,” adds Kinsel.

And that is not all. Some of the dead Shkarat Msayad did not know peace even after burial in stone pits. “Many bones were removed, transferred and buried again, but not in an orderly manner, but in some untidy similarity of a mass grave. We think that the process took place in several stages. At first, the bones were sorted, then they were dragged from for some time they lay in complete disarray, and at the last stage the bones were completely dumped into the burial trash pit, otherwise you wouldn’t name it. Nevertheless, even these “graves-dumps” were located inside apartment buildings, ”Moritz Kinsel says.

If the post-mortem life of the inhabitants of Shkarat Msayad remains a mystery, more is known about the life of the living. 9000 years ago, the Neolithic society experienced a turning point: hunter-gatherers, accustomed to wander from place to place, began to gradually master sedentary life and the foundations of agriculture. Neither satisfying, nor easy their life was not. "A primary analysis of the bones revealed the presence of arthrosis in adults? The consequences of hard physical labor, and in children signs of persistent malnutrition," says York.

9000 years ago, the inhabitants of these places tried to domesticate sheep and grow cultivated plants, but they were not yet full-fledged farmers. At the same time, the behavior of the residents clearly indicates that the collective memory and awareness of belonging to a single community have already begun to take shape, according to Kinzel.

The ancient inhabitants of Shkarat Msayad lived in round stone houses? while archaeologists unearthed 26 of them. In one of the houses

was found the stairs, the oldest known to date. “In that house we found two stairs. One leads down to the living room, the second one goes up, probably to the roof,” said Kinsel.

Scientists believe that the roof has played a special role in the daily life of these ancient people. Apparently, they spent most of the day on the roofs there is lighter than inside the house, and the smoke from the hearth is almost not disturbed. This version is confirmed by the fact that archaeologists found almost nothing on the floor of the dwellings - no needles, no knives, and no scrapers that would talk about some kind of domestic activity. "This is reminiscent of the modern Bedouin way of life. They also spend more time outside than inside the home. In general, people have a habit of being indoors in the afternoon relatively recently," explains Kinsel.

In addition to the "stray bones", archaeologists stumbled upon another mysterious object. In each of the 26 excavated houses there is a small round well filled with a white powdered mass. For what purposes this powder was used, scientists have not yet been able to determine. And everything incomprehensible is usually attributed to religious or ceremonial practices.

“White powder, perhaps, is burnt limestone. But we still do not understand its purpose. Content analysis did not give a clear picture, it is difficult for us to interpret the results,” admitted Moritz Kinsel.

Qinsel calls the finds in Shkarat Msayad unique. Earlier, archaeologists discovered something similar — in style and number of graves — only on the territory of modern Turkey, in the Neolithic settlements of Nevali-Chori and Chayenyu (the famous “house of skulls”).

The study of unique finds will help to better understand the

thinking and way of life of a man of the Neolithic era, the researchers write. Now scientists are sure of one thing: 9000 years ago, at a transitional stage of development, the development of common rituals helped people adapt to a new life in sedentary communities.

"In historical science, rituals and rituals are usually viewed as a powerful tool for maintaining order and control within groups — people formed a common understanding of community values, which, in turn, helped to avoid conflicts," says Moritz Kinsel. The foundations of coexistence, laid in the Neolithic era, have not lost their relevance in our days.

Richard III - the victim of intrigue or the embodiment of deceit?

For more than four centuries, King Richard III of England has been the epitome of cruelty and cunning. The controversy surrounding him concerns several events, namely the deaths of Edward Lancaster, Henry VI, George Clarence and the princes in the Tower. The rest, less controversial, but still a source of controversy, is the death of Richard's wife, Anna Neville, as well as Anthony Woodville and Lord Hastings.

Many of the facts concerning these deaths are very ambiguous, and for this reason, a variety of speculations about the role Richard played in them multiplied. The great Shakespeare portrayed him as an insidious monster, a sophisticated intriguer and “genius of evil”. Thomas More, too, did not regret for him black paint. The modern historian Desmond Seward entitled his life story: “Richard III, Black Legend of England”. This name itself has become a symbol of treachery and murder.

But modern historians believe that the real look of this monarch was far from being so unequivocal. Of course, quite a lot of historical

works and fiction have been written about such a controversial person, but is it possible to unconditionally accept all sources? The historians who wrote about him were not always impartial, and fiction - it is fiction.

A modern reader with the image of Richard III is most likely familiar with the play of Shakespeare of the same name, in which Richard is derived from an odious figure. This drama is included in the cycle of historical chronicles of Shakespeare, but it differs markedly from these multi-faceted works with many actors. This is a performance of one protagonist, or rather, an antihero. Atrocities Richard commits not just like that, but with obvious pleasure. This is a sophisticated villain who quotes classics and makes long speeches in his defense.

In the first monologue, which opens the play, he directly declares: "I decided to become a rascal." The reason is simple - no one likes Richard. In his life there is no place for happiness, because he is a freak - a small crooked hunchback with an unpleasant physiognomy. Richard yearns for love and family happiness, but he is sure that he cannot be loved. Power is the only consolation, and he will achieve it, even if his soul becomes as disgusting as his appearance. If there are other people's lives between him and the throne, he should take them away, “clearing the way with a bloody ax”.

Richard is a virtuoso hypocrite, hypnotizing those around him who do not want to recognize his executioner in him. The unlucky Duke Clarence, after his brother slander was imprisoned in the Tower, hopes to Richard’s intercession until the last, and he orders to drown him in a barrel with wine. Lord the Hastings usurper caress, appoints the chairman of the Royal Council - and immediately orders to execute. Having forced Lady Anna to marry himself — the wife of Prince Edward killed — he soon killed her to marry Elizabeth’s own niece and consolidate her rights to the throne.

You made a joyful earth hell
Curses and groans filled...
Leave our world and hide in hell, shameless
And the vile demon - there you must reign!
V. Shakespeare, "Richard III"

Shakespeare wrote his play in the last decade of the XVI century, in the reign of Elizabeth I, and it is not surprising that in his narrative he was most supportive of Grandfather Elizabeth, the first king of the Tudor dynasty, Henry VII. Shakespeare showed Richard a vicious usurper who without hesitation hires a murderer to kill "two mortal enemies; there is no rest for me, no sleep for me ... two illegitimate in the Tower. " Having done this black deed, Richard coolly decides to seek the location of the eldest sister of the murdered princes, already promised to his rival, Heinrich Tudor. In the happy ending of the play, after the victory at the Bosworth Field, Heinrich Tudor proclaims: “The bloody dog died down ... and the feud has ended.”

To John Morton, Archbishop of Canterbury and Chancellor under Henry VII Tudor, we owe the first letters about Richard (impartially written, respectively). They then formed the basis of the "History of Richard III," written by Thomas More, chancellor of Henry VIII. True to serving the Tudors, Mor did not stint black colors, which was aggravated by the literary talent of the author of the immortal "Utopia." And all subsequent historians based on his work, starting with the official historiographer Henry VII, the Italian Polydor Virgil, Holinshed and others.

It was Thomas More in "The Story of Richard III" who rewarded the last king of the House of York with a hump, dry hand, and indispensable diabolical limp. And then, during the reign of Elizabeth I, the last of the Tudor dynasty, William Shakespeare completed it. Like

any great artist, he subtly felt the social order and, having absorbed the Tudorian idea of history with milk, gave the picture that had developed over the century, a finished look.

The list of atrocities is so large that it arouses suspicion: is the real Richard guilty of the sins that he was charged with? And the closer we get to historical facts, the more these doubts become. Before proceeding with the study and comparison of the various views presented by historians and writers, it is worthwhile to make a brief overview of known facts related to the life and work of Richard III.

It was having seized power over England in 1066, Duke William the Conqueror, who became King William I from that moment, founded the Norman dynasty, which ruled for almost a century - until 1154.

Then, after the death of the childless King Stephen, the long-distance associate of Stephen Gottfried Handsome ascended to the throne under the name of Henry II. Eight kings of this dynasty ruled over two centuries. However, its last representative, Richard II, was too zealously trying to establish an absolute monarchy, which caused opposition from the feudal lords.

In the end, the rebellions led in 1399 to the overthrow of this sovereign. Henry IV from the house of Lancaster, the lateral branch of the Plantagenets, raising to Prince John, the third son of Edward III, was established on the throne. However, his rights were very doubtful, and the representatives of the House of York, ascending to the fourth son of the same Edward III, Prince Edmund, were most vehemently challenged.

As a result, two sides of the future war of the Scarlet and White Rose were identified. For nearly 30 years, residents of the British Isles suffered from endless feud between the York dynasties, one of whose emblems was the white rose, and Lancaster, whose symbol was the scarlet rose. Later, this struggle with varying success for the English

crown was romanticized and called the war of scarlet and white rose.

The Rose War, which lasted thirty years, produced noticeable havoc in the ranks of the British aristocracy, and the closer to the throne, the more noticeable. The warring parties exterminated each other in all possible ways. Richard was the son of this cruel century and fully adhered to his main principle: "Kill or you will be killed!". The same was his brother Edward IV, whom Shakespeare, without any particular reason, draws as a weak but good monarch. In fact, he played a decisive role in the removal from power, and then the murder of King Henry VI - the last of Lancaster. The powder keg exploded in 1455, during the reign of Henry VI.

The match set fire to the wife of the latter, Queen Margaret, who succeeded in removing Richard, Duke of York, from the Royal Council. Richard and his supporters (among who was the rich and powerful Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick, "the maker of kings") revolted. For five years, fierce battles were interspersed with political maneuvering; luck smiled on one side or the other. Richard York and his eldest son Edmund fell in battle under Wakefield, but his second son proclaimed himself King Edward IV and on March 29, 1461 utterly defeated the army of Lancaster in the bloody battle of Cowton.

Then, after ten years of calm (however, rather, relative, for the Lancasters' individual revolts practically did not stop) Edward IV quarreled with the most powerful supporter of the Yorks - Earl Richard Warwick, because he strove to become a real dictator. While Warwick was wooing a Spanish princess to a new monarch, Edward hurriedly married the widow of a simple English nobleman Gray, who was 11 years older. Warwick's mission failed, and the proud feudal lord found himself offended. Relations between him and the king deteriorated more and more, and in 1470, Earl Warwick turned to the side of Lancaster, joined forces with Queen Margaret and brought an invasion army from

France, restoring Henry VI for a short time on the throne.

Edward fled to Holland with Richard, Duke of Gloucester, who was then 17 years old. Neither then nor later did the sources report anything about the particular cruelty or physical deformity of Richard, which Shakespeare painted. In the play, Richard himself says about himself: “he is ugly, warped, and before the time I am sent to the world of people”. But in the chronicles written during the life of Richard (as opposed to the Protodeor texts written after), there is not a word about the King’s notorious hump, it is only said that he has one shoulder higher than the other. Richard has no hump on the few remaining portraits, and in general he seems like a rather pleasant young man. Yes, it was young - because he had a chance to live only 32 years.

In the early battles of the war, Rose Richard, contrary to Shakespeare, did not take part. But at the age of 17 he actively helped Brother Edward organize the invasion of England. After recruiting mercenary soldiers in the Netherlands, the Yorks crossed the English Channel in April 1471 and defeated Warwick at the Battle of Barnet. After that, for four days, the crowd saw the naked body of the "King of Kings", prostrated on the porch of St. Paul's Cathedral in London. In May, the 16-year-old heir to Lancaster, Prince Edward, was killed at Tewkesbury. And on the night of May 21, the life of his father, Henry VI, was cut short in the Tower.

Hardly Richard Gloucester was involved in these deaths more than his brother. All the years of the reign of King Edward IV. Gloucester was his faithful servant. He successfully performed important military and government posts, demonstrating his dedication and ability to be useful. For his brother, he was obviously a man who could be relied upon in the most difficult and important matters. Gloucester received in the management of the northern regions of England, who suffered from the attacks of supporters of Lancaster and the Scots. At the head of the army

sent to the north, he won an important victory, which for almost half a century provided Tranquility on the Scottish border.

As is well known, Duke Richard of Gloucester married Lady Anne Neville, the youngest daughter of Count Warwick, and the widow of Prince Edward of Lancaster. And which, according to legend, sent to the other world. But apparently, Richard Gloucester is not guilty of this evil deed. With his wife, Anna Neville, he lived much longer than Shakespeare portrays — as much as 13 years. She died shortly before the death of Richard under unclear circumstances, and there is no doubt that he was not to blame. Most likely, the queen could not bear the death of her only son Edward, who barely lived to be ten years old. According to another version, tuberculosis is responsible for her death, which then, naturally, could not be treated, so she died so early.

Another legend about the deceit of Richard says that he drowned in the barrel of malvaziya Duke George Clarence. The Duke Clarence, who was married to Warwick's eldest daughter, unsuccessfully opposed the marriage of Gloucester with Anna Neville. The King of Kings left a huge inheritance, and Clarence, who was not at all a harmless simpleton, did not want to give half. He tirelessly tried to set the king against Gloucester, and there is nothing surprising in the fact that Richard finally decided to repay him with the same coin. And yet, you can only blame him for the death of Clarence with an eye on him: when he was imprisoned in the Tower in 1478, Richard remained in the north, far from the courtyard. In addition, drowning a duke in a barrel of malvasia is nothing more than a legend. Most likely, he was secretly strangled, and, probably, on the orders of the king himself, who was tired of the tireless intriguer long ago.

Edward IV "reigned in peace and prosperity" for twelve years; his eldest son, Edward V., succeeded him. On April 9, 1483, Edward IV, the king of England, died unexpectedly, a little before the age of 41. His heir was only twelve years old, and in the will Edward appointed the junior king of his younger brother Richard, the duke of Gloucester, to be the regent of the minor. Edward IV, as a representative of the York dynasty,

announced three of his predecessors on the throne, Lancaster kings, usurpers, but he knew that there would be people who would challenge the right to the throne of his young heir - Edward, Prince of Wales. Richard, who proved his loyalty and was a talented commander in the service of his brother and the king, gave an oath of allegiance to the Prince of Wales.

Now he was in a hurry to take control of the kingdom, in the center of which there was a power vacuum. On April 29, Richard intercepted a group of courtiers who were transporting young Edward to London, arrested their leader, the boy's maternal uncle, and accompanied his nephew on the way to the capital. The coronation of Edward V, originally scheduled for May 4, was rescheduled for June 22, and the future monarch was placed in the royal chambers in the Tower. Suspecting her friend in cunning, the widow of Edward IV Elizabeth took refuge with her younger son and daughters at Westminster Abbey. In June, the regent managed to convince Elizabeth to give him the 9-year-old Richard, Duke of York, explaining that the young king in the Tower was lonely.

On Sunday, which was to be the day of the coronation of Edward V, his right to occupy the throne was questioned.

The Cambridge theologian, Shea, delivered a sermon at the Cathedral of St. Paul in London, declaring that the transfer of the throne to his son Edward V was illegal. their children — including the young king — were illegitimate. For some time, the Duke of Gloucester pretended that he did not want to be a king, but already on June 26 he took the crown and was proclaimed King Richard III.

The reign of the boy king lasted less than three months. During July, not crowned Edward V, who was now contemptuously called Edward the bastard, and his brother were occasionally seen playing in the courtyard of the Tower. But then, according to the testimony of a

contemporary, the boys were transferred to the most remote rooms of the palace-fortress, they appeared less and less often in windows with bars, “until they finally ceased to appear at all”. Both Edward V and his younger brother never went beyond the walls of the Tower, and the mystery of their disappearance remains unsolved to this day. The question of the villainous murder of princes is called by some researchers the most famous detective story in the history of England.

We give one interesting fact. Almost two centuries after the end of the Rose War, in 1674, while repairing one of the White Tower’s premises (buildings inside the fortress), two skeletons were found under the stairs, which were taken to be the remains of Edward V and his brother. However, research methods at the end of the XVII century were, according to our concepts, rather primitive. The remains were laid in a marble urn and buried in Westminster Abbey, which has long served as the tomb of English kings. In 1933, the remains were removed and subjected to medical examination.

The conclusion was that the bones belong to adolescents, one of whom is 12-13 years old, and the other 10. About the same number of years were princes in 1483-1484. But the assertion of physicians that traces of violent death from asphyxiation were found was disputed as unprovable on the basis of the surviving part of the skeletons. The cause of death was not reliably established, but noticeable damage was found in the jaw of the older boy. Among the people who last saw the princes in the Tower of London was the court physician, summoned to Edward V, when a tooth fell ill. The young king, the doctor said, prayed a lot and confessed daily, as he was sure that he would face a quick death. “Oh, if my uncle would leave my life,” he said, “even if I lose the kingdom.”

Some experts have suggested that the older teenager was younger than Edward V. It was even doubted that the skeletons belong to male children. Be that as it may, the examination did not establish the main

thing - the exact age of these remains (by the way, it is not easy to determine even now).

Did Richard kill his nephews? Let him strive so much for the throne that he did not stop in front of any obstacles in order to attain power, and the elimination of his legitimate heirs - Edward V and his brother Richard - was quite justified (from Richard III's point of view) step. But the heirs have already been officially declared illegal! What is the use of getting rid of bastards who have no rights to the throne?

Rumors that both princes were slain in the Tower spread to the fall of 1483, but by whom? In January 1484, a French diplomat told the King of France, Charles VIII, who was only 14, that the sons of Edward IV had been killed by their uncle, so the crown went to the killer. Thomas More, Shakespeare, Barg also believe that Richard killed his nephews. Thomas More describes the killing of the princes as follows. "After the coronation, Richard went to Gloucester. He understood that while his nephews were alive, the people did not recognize his rights to the throne. So he sent John Green, a trusted man, to Constable Breckerbury, ordering Breckenbery to kill the princes, but Breckenbery replied that he would rather die than kill the princes. With that answer, Green returned to Richard.

Hearing this, the king fell into such irritation and meditation that on the same night he asked the page: "Is there a person you can trust? Those whom I exalted and from whom I could wait for devotional service, even they leave me and don't want to do anything on my order. " Page said that there is, and this man - Sir James Tyrrel. Then Richard found Tyrrel and secretly spoke of his intention. Then the king sent Tyrrel to Breckenbury with a letter ordering him to give Tyrrell all the keys to the Tower for one night. And when the letter was handed over and the keys were received, Tyrrel chose the coming night for the murder, outlined a plan and prepared all the means.

The prince, when he learned that the protector had refused the title of proctor and called himself the king, immediately realized that he would no longer have to reign, and that the crown would be left for his uncle. The one who informed him of this message tried to console him with kind words and encourage him; however, the prince and his brother were immediately locked up, and all friends were removed from them. So Tyrrel decided to kill the princes at night. To do this, he appointed Miles Forrest, one of the four princes' bodyguards, a boy who stained himself with murder, and John Dayton, his strider. And when the princes were sleeping, Forrest and Dayton entered the princes’ bedroom and strangled them with pillows.

In this version there are quite a few inaccuracies. And the main one is that the commandant of the Tower until July 17, 1483 was not Robert Breckenbury, to whom Richard allegedly ordered the murder of princes and after refusing to turn to Tyrrell, but a close friend of Richard John Howard. After July 28, 1483, Richard granted Howard the title of Duke of Norfolk to Howard. Howard died fighting for Richard at Bosworth. John Howard's son, Thomas, also fought for Richard at Bosworth, after Bosworth was imprisoned for three years, but then Henry VII ordered him to be released, because he found it possible to entrust him with command of the troops to suppress the uprising in Yorkshire. After the death of Thomas Howard title passed to his son - Thomas Jr. What prompted Henry to forgive his son Howard and to express his favor to him?

It is likely that Heinrich endorsed the crime and complained about the persons involved. All this could have prompted the king, just mentioning Tyrrell's confession, not to appoint any investigation and hasten to close the case. But why did the mention of John Howard as Commandant of the Tower disappears in the work of Thomas More, and attention was focused on Breckenbery? It should be borne in mind that

more was familiar with Thomas Howard Sr. and Thomas Howard Jr., and both of them were extremely interested in hiding the role of their father and grandfather in the murder of princes.

"Too high" technology Denisov man

Almost every year, archaeologists remove from oblivion objects that change our ideas about ancestors. It would seem that a caveman and a piece of jewelry are incompatible concepts.

But no - an artifact found in a cave in the Altai, causes us to doubt the primitiveness of the ancients.

In 2008, an international team of archaeologists discovered a small bone fragment in the Denisova Cave in Altai. The first rule of an archaeologist says - do not dismiss any debris. But who would have thought that the 10 grams of bones found here could, if not reverse the science, then shake it thoroughly ...

Cave dwellers

A wide strip of steppes, located between the Ural Range and the Caspian Sea, is called by scientists “the gates of the peoples”. The location of the Altai Mountains is also such that it was extremely difficult to get around their ancient migrants from Europe to Asia (and vice versa). It is not surprising that there are traces of many immigrants. Among them are those that had a small resemblance with modern man.

Most of the Altai guests preferred to live in local caves. The famous Denisova Cave is one of them. It was there, 300 thousand years ago, that representatives of the Homo genus, from Neanderthals and ending with comparatively developed nomadic peoples — the Turks and

Huns, sheltered from the weather and predators.

The reason for such popularity of the Denisova Cave is its cave. It is always dry here, and a hole in the ceiling allows the sun to penetrate and “works” with a natural chimney. However, not all its inhabitants considered this cave a shelter from the cold. The most ancient, on the contrary, preferred to keep the extracted carcasses in her cool - after all, about 20 thousand years ago it was quite hot in Southern Siberia.

Considering that in the cave people had led an active lifestyle for thousands of years - butchered prey, made fires, performed rituals, and even buried the dead, - the ground in it hid a lot of scientific material. But only in 1977, the Soviet archeologist Nikolai Ovodov made here the first two shafts, which gave hope for the continuation of the excavations.

They began only in 1982, removing the layer after layer. In 2008, archaeologists reached the 11th layer, responsible for the people who lived here 30-50 thousand years ago. In it, among other things, they found a small bone - the phalanx of the human finger. Already in the cave, when the bones belonging to man became clear, archaeologists rejoiced - for thousands of years, the bones usually turn into dust. But then it was even more interesting.

The phalanx was sent for genetic research in Leipzig, to the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology. There, a group of scientists led by biologist Svante Paabo, who “read” the Neanderthal genome earlier, determined: the bone does not belong to Homo sapiens and not even Homo neanderthalensis, but to a representative of a completely different humanoid branch. He was called the Denisov man. And it was a scientific sensation!

Chloritolite bracelet

Later genetic studies showed that Denisovets did not possess such a developed brain and nervous system as “reasonable man”. In other words, the isolated DNA prompted the idea that the Denisovans could not even speak, but were primitive human-like creatures. However, the finds dug up after the phalanx did not really fit in with this statement. More precisely, he was stubbornly refuted.

Bone needles with graceful ears and the same bone cases for them, pendants made of phalanxes and teeth of animals, beads made of tubular bones, rings made of a mammoth tusk, as well as a mass of stone spikes - it was difficult to imagine that these things could make blunt (if you believe calculations geneticists) Denisovtsy. But most of all scientists were struck by the chlorite-molded bracelet found in the same 11th layer of the cave.

The archeologists found fragments of the bracelet in the eastern gallery of the Denisova Cave. At first it was unclear what it is all about: two fragments, the width of which was 2.7 centimeters, and the thickness - 0.9 centimeters. When they were put together, it became clearer. True, the alleged diameter of the product confused - only about 7 centimeters.

When scientists realized that they were wearing a bracelet, they thought it was a sinful affair that he had got into this layer by artificial means. Well, for example, some Hunnic warrior buried him as a treasure. It was not easy to believe that Denissovets could make a piece of jewelry. After all, by chance such things do not work. And the bracelet itself is a product of a certain culture, the result of life experience and views of several generations.

No less surprised and the material of the product. Chloriteolite is a rather fragile mineral. And the conditions of life of his master did not suggest a quiet life. As a result, the bracelet was subjected to mechanical stress and damage. On its outer side there are traces of scratches and

bumps.

Therefore it is no wonder that it broke at least two times. For the first time, the fault surfaces were smooth enough to try to glue the fragments together. To do this, they were first polished with abrasive, then they were rolled over the edges, and after gluing they were smoothed with an unknown soft material. However, bonding did not restore the former strength, and the bracelet broke again, after which its restoration was impossible.

"Too high" technology?

Inspection of the bracelet showed that there were neat holes in it, through one of which, apparently, a pendant with a bead was passed through.

Archaeologists suggest that it could be a leather strap. It was by the location on the bracelet of the segment, polished by the friction of the strap, that the “top” and “bottom” of the product was determined and it was understood that they were wearing it on the right hand.

In its original form, such a decoration could well be liked by women of the 21st century. What can we say about the Denisov ladies in the skins? Although it was hardly worn by a woman. In such societies, its role was usually low, and the bracelet could belong to individuals only with high social status.

The small diameter of the bracelet suggested to scientists that it was not complete, but detachable. Put on his wrist, he sat tight on it. In addition to the high technology of the time, the bracelet had another quality - it could change color. In the sunlight, it effectively reflected the rays, with the reflections of the flame glowed a deep dark green color. It is unlikely that he was the subject of everyday use. It is more likely that

it was worn for some exceptional cases.

Scientists have found that the ancient master had the skills of stone processing, previously considered uncharacteristic of the Paleolithic era. Judge yourself high-speed machine drilling, boring tool type rasp, grinding and polishing using leather and hides of different degrees of dressing.

Having made from local raw materials tools that the ancient master could use, scientists could hardly repeat his operations. Therefore, it was difficult for them to believe that they were confronted with a subject from an epoch that was 40-50 thousand years behind us. Previously it was believed that such jewelry manufacturing techniques appeared only 10 thousand years ago.

No less interesting is the fact that the nearest chloritolite deposit is located 200 kilometers from the cave. Considering that in those times there was hardly any trade caravans, the master (or his customer) had to cover a considerable distance for pedestrians in order to mine the mineral.

It turns out that the theory that cavemen were engaged in the manufacture of objects necessary only for survival does not really fit this episode. Or Denisovs were not so cave and primitive. After all, the possession of such artifacts is often associated with a developed religious and spiritual culture, the ability to understand man-made beauty. And in the parking lot of Denisovtsy (more precisely, in their temporary stratum) a rich collection of various decorations was found.

In the end, the find was handed over to a group of researchers from the University of Oxford. They worked with her for seven years, and only in May 2015 the group issued a sensational result. After a lot of expertise, the British called the exact age of the bracelet - at least 40

thousand years. This made this decoration the oldest ever found.

True, it completely destroyed the idea that the Denis people were primitive and not able to think abstract creatures. It is possible that science will give us more than one surprise from the area of human origin, and artifacts such as this bracelet will contribute to the restoration of historical truth.

Children of Barbelo, a strange sect

They were called stratiotics, zakheis, pivionites, barbelites, as well as coddians and borborites. The last two names are particularly instructive. The first designates people with whom no one wishes to lie down next to them during a meal, and the second deciphers why these Christian heretics are compared to mud or manure.

Borborits (in translation - "dung") were the mystical offshoot of Christianity, milled and cursed by the official Christian church.

Enraged Epiphanius

Virtually the only source that tells us in detail about these past mystics who had sunk into oblivion are the works of Epiphanius of Cyprus.

He was a famous denunciator of heretics in the 4th century. Borborites (or more correctly, they are called Barbelites) also came under his hot hand. Epiphanius himself was a Phoenician, first converted to Judaism, and then converted to Christianity. Like any neophyte, he quickly got rid of the inheritance that fell on him and went in for spiritual searches - that is, he began to wander around Egypt and Palestine and get acquainted with people engaged in exactly the same

searches. So he, probably, came upon the Barnoite Gnostics. They so embarrassed Epiphanius's fragile soul that, as a bishop of Salamis, 30 years after his short interest in them, he could not forget them.

During this time, Epiphanius had already branded more than one heretical sect, nearly died by the hands of the Parsis, the Parses, almost lost his life, preaching to the Bedouins, but the innocent and mocking Gnostics who provided him with overnight stay and food, did not forgive. For them, he found such cruel and poisonous words that you're not expecting to hear from the bishop. As if the memories of his youth brought back to him with more than once the shame experienced!

It was then that in his essay "Panarion" (which translates as "medicine chest") he denounced several dozen heretical movements forever and ever — both Christian and pre-Christian, including Barbehlites. For in his youth he wanted faith based on knowledge, and he was offered such knowledge and such Christ that he understood nothing and was frightened so much that he fell into temptation and sin. This horror remained with him until old age, although he probably has little to do with the Barbelite teaching ...

Dangerous rituals

In the transmission of Epiphanius, these people were utterly filthy. They had wives in common, and they loved to receive guests. And immediately, as the guest crossed the threshold, in a special way, "with tickling," they shook his hand. If the guest responded to this "tickling" with "tickling", then he belonged to the same sect, and if he did not answer, they immediately understood that he was a stranger. Then they seated the guest at the table and offered excellent food, meat dishes and wine, "although they were poor." Barbelites anointed their bodies with oils, kept them clean, dressed in every possible way, dressed in beautiful clothes.

No fasting was recognized and tried to eat well. On church holidays they made a common meal. After the meal, all those present indulged in carnal sin, which was a sacred act for them; the men, having pulled the seed to the back of the hand, stretched out their hand to heaven with the words: “We bring You this offering - the body of Christ”. After that, the "offering" under the prayer was eaten amicably. Similarly, the menstrual blood of women was used as the “blood of Christ”.

The Barbelites themselves, according to Epiphanius, explained this strange practice by the fact that the tree of life brings twelve fruits every year - that is, the rituals were associated with pagan fertility rites and ... the female monthly cycle. Children conceived as a result of ritual intercourse were removed by embryos and were intended for the sacrificial Easter meal - they were prepared together with other meat products with the addition of greenery and spices and used to the glory of Christ ... The ritual is, of course, wild, but not wilder, than deprivation of virginity by means of a stone idol or sacrifice to the firstborn.

Epiphanius, obviously, also took part in one of these orgies ... In any case, he referred to his youth, inexperience, and depravity of manners ... And in every way he blamed women who tried to seduce him, and with pride stated that he still managed to resist, even though these barbelitki were even very seductive and beautiful! He reproached the Barbelites and that they strongly opposed childbirth (not for ritual purposes), and that their pastors sinned with sodomy and onanism.

The doctrine of good and evil

In the presentation of Epiphanius, the Barbelite teaching is as follows. They considered both Testaments as the foundational texts, as well as “The Questions of Mary”, “The Apocalypse of Adam”, “The

Book of Set”, “The Book of Noria”, “The Gospel of Eve”. Epiphany "The Questions of Mary", which used the apocryphal text of the Sermon on the Mount of Christ and the Woman, was especially outraged.

The world, by their faith, is composed of eight spheres (heavens). Prince Iao is in the first heaven, Sakpas is on the second, Seth is on the third, David is on the fourth, Eloai is on the fifth, Yaldabot is on the sixth, Sabaoth is the seventh, and the Father of All, the eighth, God is the Father of God and the other Christ, who was not born of Mary, but only shown by her. Therefore, the barbelites believed that Jesus did not die on the cross and was never in the flesh, but appeared in the world as a ghost. The soul after death can pass through the whole train of these heavens, if it possesses knowledge. If not, then the master of the material world will captivate her and bring her back to life again, but in the form of an animal. However, initiates can avoid this fate if they perform the rites described above and perform them no less than 760 times. Then the soul will be in the eighth heaven in the possession of Barbelo.

Another name of Barbelo is Tetragrammaton: water, air, fire and earth (matter). Gnostics considered Barbelo as a mother or a fertilized pneuma (vital force identified with the primary fire logo, cosmic “breath”, spirit). According to the Gnostic text Pistis Sophia, when the soul enters the substance of Barbelo, the archons (chiefs) of the seven eons (special divine emanations) reconcile themselves with the secret of light. This is how Christ is born. Truth and peace kiss each other. Graphically, Barbelo was depicted as a cross. This cross had nothing to do with Calvary. This cross is a symbol of birth, not death. And being born in the spirit.

Only here the way of birth, more precisely, the rebirth of the soul, was more than specific for Barbelites.

Of course, much of what Epiphanius wrote can be regarded as

slander and insult. Much of the Barbelite teaching, he most likely did not understand. But not only Epiphanius treated them with disgust. The brethren, the Gnostic Ophites, also considered the Barbelite teaching unworthy and hoped that the Higher Forces would never reveal their secrets to those who consume monthly blood and sperm.

In other words, both the Ophites and the Barbelites read the same books, strove for the same knowledge, both of them were mystics, but their rituals differed as day and night. Ophites too was disgusted with the method of eternal rebirth that Barbelites had chosen — eating the body eruptions to become like the ghostly Christ! Most of all, they called for the avoidance of ignorance and fornication, otherwise one would not see any secrets of light and divine revelations.

However, it is difficult to interpret the doctrine, from which there is almost nothing left but brief comments of the Ophites and the angry rebuke of Epiphanius. Moreover, the barbelites are also credited with two very beautiful and sexually motivated text - Trimorphic Protennoia and Apocrypha from John. Trimorphic Protennoia - mystical cosmogonic text.

The Apocrypha of John reveals the secrets that Jesus revealed to the apostle, who appeared to him after the Resurrection. If these writings actually belong to the Barbelites, then they either do not at all agree with their sacred sexual practices, or these practices should be viewed in some other, unknown way. So far, it is impossible to answer these questions due to the paucity of facts.

The most terrible archaeological finds

Italian girl- "witch"

This fined in itself, perhaps, not the most terrible. But it is an illustrative example of how in medieval Europe they fought against “witches”.

In 2015, in the commune of San Calogero, located in the south of Italy, a skeleton was found, which belonged to a girl aged 15-17 years. The “witch” lived in about the 9th – 15th centuries. She was burned, her body was thrown into a pit, and the grave itself was covered with heavy slabs so that “the witch could not rise.” In addition, other methods of dealing with "otherworldly forces" were also used. Victims, for example, were beheaded, a brick was placed in their mouths, or they were dismembered.

Scientists analyzed the remains and concluded that the deceased was not very healthy. Unhappy suffered from porous hyperostosis, which was the result of iron deficiency anemia. The girl’s face was obviously rather pale, and besides, she periodically fainted. It is probably the disease that caused the accusations of witchcraft. And such a fate in the Middle Ages could befall anyone. By the way, a year earlier in the same area, archaeologists found the remains of a thirteen-year-old girl buried face down. This circumstance also suggests charges of witchcraft.

Eci

The ice man Ecz is one of the most famous mummies of all time. They found it quite by accident: German tourists came across a mummy in the Ötztal Alps in 1991. The remains were preserved so well that at first Ötzy was mistaken for a dead climber. However, as radiocarbon analysis later showed, the age of the find is approximately 5300 years. Thus, before us is the oldest of the mummies found in Europe. It looks like Ezie, as some creature from other worlds. As for the cause of the death of the ice man, the scientists point to an arrow shot at his shoulder. The tip went very deep, and the unfortunate could not pull it out.

A truly terrible find was when it was tied up with a string of mysterious deaths that occurred to people who in one way or another were in contact with Ezi. Someone was the victim of an accident, someone fell under an avalanche, and some were victims of various diseases. Meanwhile, the цисі curse was skeptical by experts. In the end, thousands of specialists worked with the mummy, and only a small part of them became victims of accidents.

Ashkelon Infants

This is probably one of the most frightening finds of all time. It was made in 1988 during an excavation at Ashkelon, located in southern Israel. The center of attention of scientists was the ancient Roman sewer, which received waste from local baths. Thousands of bones belonging to babies were found less than one of such establishments: in total, as it is supposed, the remains of about 100 children were found there. Scientists believe that it was not a bath, but a kind of institution where newborns were killed. Now it sounds crazy, but in those days the child was considered inanimate immediately after birth, and if the father did not recognize him, then the baby could be killed.

According to one version, among the dead were the children of local prostitutes, and the institution itself was a brothel. In this case, the male babies were killed immediately, but the girls could be left so that in the future they would join the ranks of the "priestesses of love." In general, infanticide was quite common in the Roman Empire. One of the first this custom was condemned by the Greek-Jewish philosopher Philo of Alexandria (c. 25 BC. E. - c. 50 AD). Subsequently, this practice was strongly condemned by the adherents of the Christian religion.

Mummy of Kilakitsok

Kilakitsok is an archaeological monument on the Nuusuak Peninsula, located in the western part of Greenland. The monument gained fame after a terrible discovery, made in 1972. The remains of eight Eskimos, which date back to 1475, were discovered in an ice grave. At the same time, the four bodies were preserved extremely well: this happened because they were buried under a rock at a low temperature. So in this case lyophilization took place.

In the first of the graves (another one was found nearby) the bodies of six adults and two children were found. Especially creepy was the mummy of a six-month-old baby, who, according to the traditions of the Eskimos, could have been buried alive. Probably, this is one of the most terrible finds in the entire history of archeology. We add that with high probability the child suffered from Down syndrome. If we talk about adults, their mummies, among other things, are notable for tattooing their faces. In the 2000s, DNA analysis was performed, revealing the family ties between the buried.

Note that the burial contained a lot of information about the culture of the Eskimos. In particular, well-preserved clothing made from the skins of deer and other animals. In total, scientists have identified 78 items of clothing. Now four of the mummies found can be seen by visiting the National Museum of Greenland.

Screaming Mummy

And this amazing find was made quite a long time ago: in 1886, the French Egyptologist Gaston Maspero discovered the “screaming mummy”. The mysterious "Man E" (this is the designation received a find) was buried in the Valley of the Pharaohs, approximately 500 km south of Cairo. There were royal family members nearby, but the sarcophagus with the remains of “Man E” was different from all the others. He was simple and not decorated. In addition, the mummy was

wrapped in the skin of a sheep, and in fact this animal in Ancient Egypt was considered unclean. But most of all, the researchers were puzzled by the appearance of "Man E": it seemed that the mummy exuded an almost tangible pain.

But who was this man? And why was he buried next to the rulers of Egypt? Scientists believe that the mummy may belong to the eldest son of Pharaoh Ramses III (1184–1153 BC). The fact is that a number of attempts were made on this ruler, in which, in particular, his son and wife took part. It is believed that some participants were spared, others were cut off their noses, and someone was executed. Pharaoh’s son was allegedly allowed to take poison: this explains the painful expression of a person’s face. But there is another, more frightening conjecture. Some researchers believe that the unfortunate was buried alive, which explains the appearance of the mummy. The tomb did not contain the name of the buried. Consequently, according to the beliefs of the ancient Egyptians, the path to immortality for this man was “ordered”. We add that there are other examples of "screaming" mummies. Something like this, in particular, can be seen in the museum of the Mexican city of Guanajuato.

Amazon warlike women

Years of the legend of cruel female warriors who once lived on the brink of ecumene, excite our imagination. Having traveled from myths and semi-fantastic stories written by ancient Greek and Roman authors, to modern television films such as Xena: Warrior Princess, the legend of a warlike tribe consisting only of women, has undergone many changes. However, are there any legends in these legends?

For the first time we learn about the warrior tribe of the Amazons from the Iliad, Homer's epic poem about the Trojan War, supposedly created in the 8th century BC: here the Trojan king Priam recalls that he

saw the battle of the Amazons against the Phrygians. Homer says that these women fought "like men like you." After Homer, many ancient authors wrote about the Amazons, complementing the current image with information about their origin. The ancient Greek historian Herodotus (mid-5th century BC) called them an andronos — “killing men” —and told amazing stories about them (especially interesting in the light of recent archaeological discoveries).

After being defeated in a battle with the ancient Greeks on the River Fermodon, on the southern coast of the Black Sea, captured Amazons were taken by ship to Greece. During the trip, women attacked their invaders and killed them. Amazon did not know how to control the ship. The ship was driven by the wind across the Black Sea to the north. Soon they landed on the coast of the Scythian lands, where they stole horses and rode off into the steppe. Herodot writes that the Amazons concluded an agreement with the Scythians - a group of scattered nomadic tribes, and soon they themselves became part of the steppe horsemen’s community, entering into marriage with Scythian men.

The Amazons occupied lands to the western bank of the Don River (now the territory of the southern part of Russia) and, having assimilated with the Scythians, became representatives of the Savromat culture. The descriptions of the Roman authors say that the Amazons were allies of Priam and fought with him against the Achaeans during the Trojan War. By the end of the war, having killed many Greeks in battle, the Queen of the Amazons, Penthesilea, launched a battle with Achilles and was killed in a bloody duel. There are references to other brave men - the heroes of ancient Greece, who dared to engage in battle with these menacing women: one of them died, someone was still alive.

One of the 12 feats of Hercules was to get the magic belt Hippolyta - Queen of the Amazons. To complete the task, Hercules, along with the hero of Ancient Greece, Theseus, went to the Amazonian capital of the

Femiskrei on the River Fermodon (probably Terme Cay in modern Turkey). Hercules killed Hippolyta and took the belt, and Theseus grabbed Princess Antiope - one of Hippolyta's sisters. Trying to save her, the Amazons invaded Ancient Greece, intending to seize Athens, but were defeated. According to other versions, Antiope was killed in a battle in which she participated on the side of Tssey. The mythical battles of the Greeks and Amazons contributed to the emergence of a whole direction in ancient Greek art - amazonomachia. An example is the marble bas-relief from the Pantheon in Athens. Some biographers of Alexander of Macedon told about the acquaintance of the commander with the Queen of the Amazons named Talestris, hinting that they even had a child. However, this information is questioned in the work of the ancient Greek historian and biographer Plutarch "The Life of Alexander", as well as in the works of a number of other ancient authors.

Early Greek and Roman writers associated many strange customs with the Amazons. Today it is believed that the word "Amazon" comes from the Iranian word "ha-Mazan" (which means "warrior"). Translated from ancient Greek, it sounds like "bezgrudaya." The ancient Greeks probably explained the Amazon tradition of burning or cutting off the right breast for themselves: to make it easier to stretch the bow string. Nevertheless, the Greek statues, bas-reliefs and vases that have survived to the present day depict them with two breasts. The myth says that the Amazons would not allow men to enter their lands, but once a year they went to the neighboring exclusively male tribe of Gargareans to continue the race. They left the girls, taught them farming, hunting, and military affairs, and the boys were either killed or given to their fathers.

Discussion is the question of the place of residence of the Amazons. They call lands from the Black Sea coast of Turkey to the south of Russia, Libya and even Atlantis. Therefore, it is not surprising that Amazons were often perceived as mythical creatures. However, now, thanks to archeology, the views of scientists have changed. According to

Herodotus, the Savromats who inhabited the south of Russia were descendants of the Scythians and Amazons. Although still in the middle of the XIX century russian archaeologists discovered skeletons of female warriors in the Pontic steppes (steppe regions of the northern coast of the Black Sea stretching east to the Caspian Sea), Western scientists and archaeologists who did not know about this, and did not trace their connection to the ancient Greek legend about the Amazons.

The excavations carried out by Russian and American archaeologists under the direction of Jeanine Davis-Kimbel from the American Research Institute of Eurasia confirmed the veracity of the words of ancient authors. In the ancient grave hills (which are commonly called barrows), in the town of Pokrovka, on the border between Russia and Kazakhstan, were found skeletons of women buried with weapons. In the graves dating from the VI - IV centuries BC, were iron swords, daggers, bronze arrowheads, bows, quivers and horse harness. This led to the assumption that in this culture, female warriors had a high social status.

Initially, the opinion was expressed that the weapon had a ritual function. However, having studied the skeletons, scientists rejected this version. On some turtles traces of wounds were found, and the curved tibia bones of a 13- to 14-year-old girl prompted the idea that she led the life of a rider. The bent tip of an arrow protruding from the knee of another woman led to the conclusion that she was wounded during the battle. It has been established that weapons found near women were often used in battles, and its arms differed in size from weapons from male graves, which could be made specifically for women.

Is it really the graves of the Amazons? Perhaps not. On the one hand, there is no doubt that Herodotus’s claim that the Savromats had female warriors, and on the other, no evidence that they were descendants of the Amazons and Scythians, which Herodot told in his

History, has not yet been found. In addition, Savromat warrior women made up a relatively small part of the tribe: while 90% of men's graves were the graves of warriors, only 20% of the women's kurgans managed to find weapons.

There are other arguments against the Savromat version. Amazons are mentioned in works of ancient Greek literature and art from the 8th century BC, that is, 200 years before any evidence appeared of female warriors in the Eurasian steppes. The first ancient Greek colony on the Black Sea coast appeared in the VII century BC, although it is possible the existence of trade relations in the earlier period. The assumption that warrior women lived in the steppes earlier than archaeological data testifies has the right to exist, but nothing more. No data and that the Greeks were in contact with them. Consequently, warrior women of the Savromat culture could have influenced the creation of the Amazon myth, but were not its source. About IV c. BC e. Savromat culture joined the culture of other nomadic tribes - Sarmatians. Female warriors were also found in their early graves. The Sarmatians advanced further west than their predecessors: the Sarmatian cavalry in the service of the Romans participated in the British campaigns in the II - V centuries. However, whether warrior women were among those riders is unknown.

The list of nomadic tribes in which there were women warriors is not limited to this. For example, representatives of the Pazyryk culture, who lived in Altai far enough from the Sarmatians, are characterized by almost the same burial rites. They built mounds similar to those built in Ukraine and in the south of Russia. In 1993, the Russian archaeologist Natalia Polosmak discovered the Pazyryk burial mound of the 5th century BC this burial was named Siberian Ice Girl (*). She was not a warrior, but held the high status of a priestess. In addition, Polosmak discovered graves with skeletons of men and women. Arrowheads and axes were found in each of these graves.

Perhaps admiring stories of noble travelers about steppe women and other more believable stories supplemented the myth of the Amazons that already existed in ancient Greece. However, fearless women could personify uncharted dangers in myths, and maybe even barbarism in general, encountered by the ancient Greeks who dared to go to new lands, such as the Black Sea coast. It is curious that, in the opinion of the ancient Greeks, the Amazons always lived on the very edge of the ecumene, where civilization ends.

With the expansion of their ideas about the world, the homeland of the Amazons again moved further and further. Perhaps that is why the geographic data associated with them is so contradictory. Thus, in ancient written sources, the story of the Amazons begins with the fact that they lived east of ancient Greece in Asia Minor (Turkey) and were probably the founders of the cities of Ephesus and Smyrna on the east coast. Under Herodotus (V century BC) they moved to the south of Russia, and by the time of writing the Diodorus Sicilian Historical Library, in the 1st century AD, the homeland of the Amazons was already considered Western Libya.

If the Amazon myth is indeed part of the people's memory of the matriarchal culture of belligerent women, the question arises: why was Homer in the 8th century BC wrote about them as if everyone already knew. It is possible that they existed earlier, approximately at the end of the Bronze Age - the beginning of the Iron Age (in the period between 1600 BC and 900 BC). In this case, the most likely places of residence could be Anatolia, the steppe part of Russia or the Caucasus Mountains. However, to date, data on the existence of female warriors in these lands in such ancient times has not been revealed.

In a sense, the Amazons myth can be considered as the ancient Greeks' idea of "others" (**). The description of these women in the literature and art of the time is intended more to demonstrate the features

opposite to those of a highly developed society. Among the ancient Greeks, all the duties of a woman came down to housekeeping; they were not involved in wars and politics. And on the contrary, the Amazons made decisions and participated in battles. Such a game on the contrast in the myths determined the state of things in the ancient Greek state, focusing on the unnatural nature of those societies that were radically different from their own. And of course, the barbarians who encroached on their culture, this applies to the battles between the Amazons and the ancient Greeks, always lost.

Ancient Babylon

The first researcher who took seriously the excavations of ancient Babylon was Robert Koldewey who spent 12 years of his life, having spent almost two million marks on a modest wage of workers, on shovels and cars, in order to free Babylon from biblical legends and make it a real fact.

First, the expedition of Koldewei unearthed two rows of the Babylonian walls, which stretched for nearly 90 kilometers around the city. It was twice the circumference of London in the last century, and yet London at that time had more than two million inhabitants. How many residents in this case should have lived in Babylon?

At the beginning of 1900, Koldewei established that his workers had also excavated the third belt of the Babylonian walls. If all the bricks of these walls were to be placed in a chain, then a belt with a length from 500 to 600 thousand kilometers would have turned out. They could gird the globe at the equator 12-15 times...

The second wall was made of baked bricks: for the production of it in the required quantity 250 factories had to work with an annual

productivity of ten million pieces of bricks. What was the purpose of these walls? Protect the inhabitants of Babylon from enemy guns? Is it possible for 2000 years before the invention of gunpowder?

Ancient Babylon - the walls on the inner side were lined with glazed tiles, covered with ornaments, as well as images of lions, gazelles, dragons and warriors with weapons in their hands. Already in the first days of the excavation, when they dug out incomplete 10 meters of walls, Koldewei found almost a thousand large and small fragments from their ornaments: lion tails and teeth, legs of gazelles and people, spearheads ... And all 19 years of excavation of the find continued!

According to the descriptions of the ancient authors and the book “Resurrected Babylon” by R. Koldevey, it is now possible to imagine the city of the times of Nebuchadnezzar.

On huge plain mighty walls with hundreds of towers, covered with green and blue tiles, reflect the sun's rays far to the horizon. And behind these walls and towers - even more magnificent and tall buildings. In the center of the capital rises the tallest building between the Euphrates and the Tigris - the legendary Tower of Babel. And this whole magical landscape is reflected in a huge lake, which protected the already inaccessible walls from attack. The ingenious water system made it possible in case of danger to flood the plain around Babylon.

All the authors agree that the walls were built of bricks fastened with asphalt. But even more than the fortress walls, Koldewei (and the whole world with it) were struck by another discovery - “The Road of Death”, or, more precisely, “The Road for the Processions of the God of Marduk”.

The road ran from the shores of the Euphrates and the Great Gate to the main temple of ancient Babylon - Esagile (a sanctuary with a high

tower) dedicated to the god Marduk. This 24-meter-wide road was as straight as a cord, and led first to the gate of the goddess Ishtar (a powerful fortified structure with four towers), and from there along the royal palace and ziggurat to the shrine of the god Marduk. In the middle, the road was paved with large stone slabs, and red brick stripes framed the entire length of it. The space between the shiny stone slabs and the matte paving was covered with black asphalt. On the underside of each slab was cuneiform:

“I, Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, son of Nabopasarer, king of Babylon. The Babylon road of pilgrims laid out for the procession of the great lord Marduk stone slabs ... O Marduk! O great lord! Grant Eternal Life! ”

It was a great road, but nevertheless it did something completely different by the wonder of the world. In essence, it was a huge gully, like a beautifully lined canal-gateway. Nothing was visible either to the right or to the left, because on both sides it was framed by smooth walls of seven meters high, ending with teeth, between which the towers stood at the same distance from each other.

The inner side of the walls was lined with brilliant glazed blue tiles, and on a cold blue background it was threatened by lions with a bright yellow mane and a grinning jaw with fangs. One hundred and twenty-two-meter predators looked at the pilgrims from the walls, from the gates of the goddess Ishtar, dragons grazed in their mouths, horned semi-crocodiles, half-bodies with scaly torso and huge bird claws instead of their paws just as predatoryly threw their eyes. These Babylonian dragons were over five hundred.

Why pious Babylonian pilgrims had to go on this terrible road? After all, the religion of ancient Babylon, although it was full of magic, miracles and fantastic creatures, was by no means a religion of horror.

But the road of Marduk evoked a sense of fear and surpassed everything, even the Aztec temple in Chichen Itza, which is called petrified horror. The researchers of the Babylonian religion could not answer this question.

Military historians suggest that the road of the great god Marduk served not only for pilgrim processions, but was also part of the defense system of the largest fortress that ever existed in the world.

Let us try to imagine what the enemy would have decided if he decided to capture the Babylon of Nebuchadnezzar?

At first, he would have had to overcome a wide ditch, into which the waters of the Euphrates would be put. Suppose it succeeded ... For such cases, in Mesopotamia, not boats, but air-infused sheep skins, on which the soldiers swam, were used, as on life-saving circles. (Employees of Koldewey thus moved every morning to work from the right bank of the Euphrates.)

Suppose that the enemy overcame both the first, and second, and third lines of the walls of ancient Babylon. And here he is at the main gate, and having overcome this gate, he gets on a flat, paved and asphalt road leading to the royal palace. Then from the countless holes in the towers it would rain down on arrows, spears and hot asphalt cores. And he would not have the slightest chance of escape. In addition, the enemy would be between horrifying walls - lions staring with a menacing look, and hundreds of dragons would graze from the gate of the goddess Ishtar. The road of Marduk became for the enemy a real road of death.

Still, ancient Babylon fell ... It fell, although the walls of Nebuchadnezzar continued to stand and no one mastered them ... The Persian king Cyrus bribed the ruling elite, promising her to preserve all the privileges. And she opened the gates of the city walls and the main

gate of the goddess Ishtar. And the shields of warriors, who give honor to the new lord, covered the mouths of the formidable lions on the walls of the Marduk road.

Piri Reis Map

The image of America on the Piri Reis map is one of the few surviving to this day. Historians discovered it in 1929 in a pile of cobblestones at the Topkapi Palace in Istanbul. Today the map is stored in the library of this palace and very rarely exhibited for public viewing. A map dated 1513 was drawn on the skin of a gazelle by the admiral of the Turkish fleet of the Ottoman Empire, Piri Reis.

A grid of intersecting lines — the so-called “loxodrome” —was used to plot the course and was a characteristic feature of medieval nautical charts. A careful study of the document showed that initially it was a map of the world, which was then torn to pieces.

The map of the station, as it would have been called today, was a typical document of the 14th - 16th centuries. Such maps were created for sailors sailing from port to port. They were not suitable for distant oceanic travels, since they did not take into account the sphericity of the Earth. Undoubtedly, the ancient image of America is of considerable interest to historians, and not only.

In his book Maps of the Kings of the Ancient Seas, published in 1966, the historian and geographer at the University of New Hampshire, Charles Hapgood, suggested that the land area at the bottom of the map south of South America clearly stands for Antarctica (and this long before how the mainland was open!).

The map shows the coastline of Antarctica in detail and, according

to Hapgud, presents an accurate depiction of Queen Maud Land without glaciers. In his opinion, this indicates that it was mapped in prehistoric times, before the continent encased the ice. But how could a man of the Stone Age see and map Antarctica? Hapgud believed that once prehistoric civilizations were forgotten, whose inhabitants traveled across the oceanic expanses. They floated from the pole to the pole, so even in the distant past they were able to map the entire surface of the Earth.

According to Hapgud's theory, these civilizations left us with inheritance cards that are more than a thousand years old. Their copies were used by mariners of such cultures as the Minoan and Phoenician. Hepgood also referred to the Piri Reis map of this kind of ancient maps.

Later, Erich von Deniken claimed that Antarctica depicted on the Piri Reis map without an ice sheet confirms his theory of the ancient astronauts, and said that the first version was created by representatives of an alien civilization. In his book Traces of the Gods, written in 1995, Graham Hancock also pointed out that in the distant past; there were now unknown, highly developed ancient civilizations. Their in-depth knowledge of astronomy, architecture, navigation, and mathematics passed on to the ancient cultures of the Olmecs, Aztecs, Mayans and Egyptians. He also stated that the creators of the Piri Reis map used the sources of the maps of ancient supercultures as sources. Both Hapgud and Hancock noted that the image of Antarctica represented on the Piri Reis map was executed in great detail: mountains, rivers and lakes are marked on it. When it was created, the ancient observations from the satellite that is above Egypt could be taken as a basis.

Many scientists and archaeologists are skeptical about the theory of Hepgud. Mainly because no sources have survived that indicate the existence of an ancient civilization, which would have the resources, technology, and even more the need to explore Antarctica. What reasons

could they have? Even if one assumes that such a highly developed prehistoric culture existed, the question remains: Is Antarctica really depicted on the Piri Neus map without ice cover?

Most supporters of the theory of the ancient maritime civilization complain about the lost geographical knowledge, the existence of which confirms the accuracy with which the map is made, especially in the part depicting Antarctica. However, is Piri Reis map so accurate? The absence of the Drake Strait between South America and Antarctica suggests that if the map shows the South American continent, it is connected with Antarctica as a land area of almost 932 miles. And this is a glaring mistake for such an accurate map.

Studying the rest of the map, which shows Europe and Africa, you can see very detailed images for that time. However, the size of the peninsulas and bays increased, which, apparently, is due to the navigation of the time, which was carried out on coastal landmarks. South America seems too narrow, although Brazil is shown fairly accurately. At the same time, North America is depicted vaguely and very carelessly, as if drawn from words, and not on the basis of nographic knowledge. These data suggest that in ancient times no large-scale studies were conducted, based on which one could create an exact map.

It should be noted that there are ancient maps that are made more carefully than the Piri Reis map. So, on the map of 1500 Juan de la Cosa and Alberto Cantino more accurately show the position of the islands of Cuba, Jamaica and Puerto Rico. The only detail that can serve as confirmation of the authenticity of the Piri Reis map is that it supposedly depicts Greenland before the glaciation. However, even with a cursory examination in the upper right-hand corner of the map, the western part of France, located at 50 ° north latitude, is distinguishable. Therefore, if France is represented on the map as the most northern country,

Greenland should not be on it, and since there are no islands that would even remotely resemble Greenland, it is very difficult to say whether this data is evidence of this version.

To confirm the theory that the ice-free Antarctica is depicted on the Piri Reis map, Charles Hapgood used the data of acoustic studies obtained during the Antarctic expeditions of the 40-50s of the XX century. However, the hypothesis of Hapgud, which once seemed quite probable to scientists, today raises serious doubts. An irresistible contradiction appeared on the frozen Antarctica drawn on the map of Pirineis. After the mainland finally thawed, its coastline had to change. She could not match the modern outlines of Antarctica.

Over time, the continental crust was to descend hundreds of meters under the load of millions of tons of ice lying above it, and the coastline beneath it was to change completely. If we compare Antarctica on the Piri Reis map with a relatively recent topographic map of the subglacial surface of the continent, it becomes clear that there is nothing in common between their coastlines. In addition, modern geographic research suggests that Antarctica got rid of ice not in 4000 BC. e., as stated by Hapgud. Recently obtained data on the period of the existence of unfrozen Antarctica show that this was more than 14 million years ago.

But perhaps more convincing evidence to refute the prehistoric origin of the map is contained in the notes of Piri Reis himself. At the beginning of the 16th century, when he drew his map, the Portuguese had already traveled across the Atlantic. They mentioned the parts of South America they discovered. The text of one of the inscriptions on the map says about the attack of the indigenous people of the Portuguese ship, sticking to the shore of the southern continent. In another inscription we are talking about an incredible heat. These data are quite suitable for describing South America. But the hot weather and the naked people in

Antarctica - just fiction.

We have not yet managed to find out which sources were used to create the Piri Reis map, however, it can be assumed that among them were the works of the Greek astronomer and geographer Ptolemy (II in AD), various Portuguese maps and maps of Christopher Columbus. It should be noted that Reis himself admitted that he copied the maps of Columbus. In addition, many features of the Piri Reis map, in particular geographical names and image elements of the West Indies, suggest that he used at least one Columbus map to create his own.

Another evidence that Reis used the maps of medieval Europe is the ship depicted in the upper part and the fish carrying two people on its back. The illustration was a quotation from (a medieval tale about the life of the Irish Saint Bren-jun. Apparently, Piri Reis transferred it from one of the source cards. This fact proves that at least one map of medieval Europe was used.

Greg McIntosh in 2000 in the book "Piri Reis Map 1513" notes that if you look closely at the maps of that time, it becomes clear that there is nothing on the Piri Reis map that was not known in 1513. He also claims that the lands on the Piri Reis map, which are considered Antarctica, are in reality the hypothetical Great Southern Continent that cartographers have drawn on maps since the days of Ptolemy.

It was assumed that a continent should exist in the southern hemisphere to maintain the Earth’s mass balance as opposed to the northern hemisphere. McIntosh also noted that on the Piri Reis map, all the coasts located south of 25 ° are inaccurate and not located in their places, and Antarctica in the north reaches 40 ° south, although in reality it never went beyond 70 °. A careful study of the Piri Reis map shows that it is most likely not Antarctica. Since the bears of the southern continent are very similar to the American ones, it is possible that a part

of South America is drawn on the map, fitted to the shape of a parchment.

Another feature of South America on the Piri Reis map is the image of the Andes ridges and rivers - the Amazon, Orinoco and La Plata, originating on the slopes of the mountains and flowing eastward to the sea. In those days, the Europeans did not know about the Andes, how did they appear on the map? However, the Reis map is not the only one, showing mountain ranges deep in the South American continent. The map of Nicolo de Canerio (1502–1504), which is now stored in the National Library of Paris, also contains an image of the east coast of South America with tops of mountain ranges. This data suggests that, most likely, the map of Canerio was another source for Piri Reis.

Another question remains unclear. If the Piri Reis map is based on information from ancient navigators, the Andes could be shown here, but the Pacific Ocean is unlikely. A more acceptable explanation is that the mountains depicted in the center of South America on the Piri Reis map are actually located on the east coast of the continent, but are drawn in the wrong place and scale.

Most scholars today believe that the Piri Reis map is more accurate than one would expect from medieval navigation maps of the 16th century, which were based on geographical knowledge and the assumptions of those times. There is no reason to believe that Piri Reis relied on the work of any hypothetical supercultures when creating his map. Of course, he could use ancient sources that have not survived to the present, but the map itself is of great value as an amazingly beautiful and important source of the Middle Ages.

Forgotten Schumer

Countless troops of the Persians Cyrus and Darius, the Greeks of the army of Alexander the Great, dusting the troops of the warriors of the Prophet Mohammed and the Janissaries of the Ottoman Empire, the Bedouin tribes roamed for centuries without even knowing what was beneath their feet, went along this once densely populated, fertile land.

Years passed, adding up to centuries and millennia. Rare Europeans saw only strange hills lit by the merciless sun on a desert plain. But, apparently, it is time to learn about a completely forgotten past. In 1869, the French archaeologist Jules Oppert found cuneiform inscriptions of the ancient kingdom, the ruler of which - Sargon - called himself the king of Sumer and Akkad, and suggested that the people who owned Mesopotamia, the territory between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, be called Sumerians, long before Assyria and Babylon.

At that time, no one knew the very word "Sumer." The fact of its existence was long forgotten. The land of Shinar mentioned in the Bible remained without explanation. And in this land, no one guided the masterpieces of worship and admiration of ancient people and their everyday objects.

Successful for archaeologists was the fourth expedition to excavate one of the most ancient cities of Sumer - Nippur - in 1889, led by Professor of the University of Pennsylvania (USA) H. Hilprecht. Studying the stepped ziggurat (temple tower), he found a library containing more than 20,000 cuneiform tablets. This mass of documents was a revelation for those who studied them. To investigate them all at once in such a volume is impossible. However, even the translation of some of them gave an unprecedented collection of monuments of Sumerian literature, religious essays and commercial documents.

Under the protection of higher powers, there were enough difficulties in the work of researchers. Cholera, malaria and dust storms.

The whole area was covered by war. Disobedient, wild and unbridled tribes were in a state of bloody feudal civil strife: discord, their enmity with irregular troops and the authorities of the Ottoman Empire. There were constant threats of attack by nomads, attempts to reach the expedition’s weapons and theft. There were cases of shootings and expeditionary property robbery.

In order to somehow protect their lives, archaeologists had to intimidate the superstitious population with their “magic power”. The launch of rockets and fireworks terribly frightened not only women and children, who fled with insane shouts in search of refuge, but also men. Scientists dug up a giant human head from alabaster, which plunged the local population into horror and confusion. That only was not, but, as they say, God pardoned archaeologists. P. Bota and R. Koldevey, O. Layard and L. Woolley achieved great success. They found the ancient Nineveh - the stronghold and capital of the mighty Assyrian kings, mentioned in the Bible, and Babylon, which in the days of the greatest glory of all of Sumer's forgotten was an unknown village. Only with Hammurabi in the XVIII century BC Babylon began to thunder throughout the Ancient World. It is not clear where the cuneiform plate of the times of the Ancient Sargon came from. Found bilingual – are inscriptions in two languages, which allowed deciphering ancient texts in a previously unknown language. Raking up the centuries-old garbage and dirt, having shoveled thousands of cubic meters of earth by the forces of several hundred excavators, archaeologists discovered a whole layer of forgotten history.

From the darkness of ages

About the once sensational excavations of the city of Ura, where the biblical Abraham was born, our newspaper wrote in the spring of 2011 in the article "The Sumerian Chronicles." It was about the fabulous wealth of his forgotten kings, compared with which the famous

Tutankhamun - just a poor man. However, archaeologists came across completely looted burials, in which the marauders did not even spare the royal remains.

The ruins of ancient palaces and temples, giant statues of winged bulls and lions with a human head and wonderful bas-reliefs of deities, sphinxes and winged creatures were found. The battle scenes of the siege and battles are depicted on chariots made with great art and rich ornamentation.

What did not preserve the ancient walls: drawings of warriors, dressed in chain mail from head to foot, with pointed helmets on their heads and shooting bows; images of women begging for mercy and tearing their hair out of grief; figures of people with hair folded and curled beards in richly decorated clothes, decorated with embroidery and tassels that have not lost color; bricks with stamps of the names of unknown kings and one with the name of the semi-mythical Naram-Sin (circa 3750 BC).

They also found terracotta figures of bearded gods with weapons and other devices in their hands, toys in the form of horses and horsemen, elephants and monkeys, sheep, dogs and birds. Spear tips and daggers, coins and necklaces, bracelets and earrings, rings and fasteners, brass hairpins and relics of agate, turquoise, malachite and lapis lazuli, dishes and cups with ancient legends recorded on them, often covered with images of scary demons, and many another.

Unique information

The found and deciphered Sumerian texts allowed to look into the antediluvian history and to learn about the emergence of Homo sapiens, the arrival of aliens (Nefilims) from the planet Nibiru and their life on Earth. The documents read read about how they transferred knowledge to people, taught those crafts and created ancient civilizations. There are

references to two visits to Earth by Anu - the ruler of Nibiru, the dynasty of antediluvian rulers and the first king of all Sumer after the Mesannepudd flood.

The high level of knowledge of the Sumerians is striking, especially in astronomy, mathematics and metallurgy. Only copper they were existed 23 species. With the death of civilization, many of the knowledge were lost, but the heritage of the Sumerians is still present in our life. We know 12 signs of the zodiac and 12 months of the year use the clock with 60 seconds and minutes and divide the circle by 360 degrees.

Sumerian texts allowed understanding many inexplicable passages in biblical stories and the actions of her characters. Later, Zechariah Sitchin wrote the history of the lost kingdoms and civilizations, and Alan Elford compiled a chronology of gods and people. The temple in Nippur, the religious center of Sumer, was excavated, and it became clear that the cult of the god Bela had played an important role in the life of the people in the past, as evidenced by the huge ruins and much cuneiform literature.

The temple library indicated the existence of a huge class of priests and clergy.

Helped ... Sumerian priest

True, once the information came to the scientists in a mysterious way. At the end of the expedition, Hilprecht finished a book about the excavations and their scientific results and had to give it to the publisher the next day. In it, he mentioned two fragments of agate found during the work. The archaeologist could not read the Old Sumerian inscriptions on them. He sat in his office until late at night, trying to decipher the text and give the book a finished look.

Dozing off (if it was a dream, and not something else in an altered state of consciousness), the scientist saw a person in a Sumerian priestly attire next to him. The surprised archaeologist got up, but not from the chair, but from the stone step, on which he somehow found himself. He was not even surprised that the priest said to him in English: “Follow me! I will help you". They walked down the street past several massive buildings and entered the dimly lit hall of the next one, which seemed even bigger. “Where are we?” Asked Hilprecht. “In Nippur, between the Tigris and the Euphrates. We are in the temple of Bela, the father of the gods,” answered the priest.

During the excavations, archaeologists failed to find a treasury - a room that must be in the temple, and the scientist asked his guide about it. He spent it in a small room in the far corner of the temple. There in a wooden chest lay several pieces of agate, among which Hilprecht recognized two fragments that he could not decipher.

The priest explained that these were parts of a cylinder donated to the Kurigalzu temple, the ruler of the Kassites. From it they wanted to make ear ornaments for the statue of god. When sawing one piece cracked. The inscriptions on the fragments that the scientist could not read were parts of one text. At the request of the archaeologist, the priest read this inscription to him.

Waking up (or waking), Hilprecht wrote down everything the priest had told him. Decryption of the inscription, referring to a very distant past, was recognized by other scientists impeccable. The exact location of the treasure chest in the temple, which was soon found by archaeologists, also turned out to be exact, indicated by the Sumerian priest. And thousands of unread cuneiform tablets are still waiting for their researchers, and no one knows what information they will bring to humanity.

English archaeological thriller

English parking lots will soon be available in a separate archaeological category. As it turned out, they hide either sensational discoveries or a nightmare for archaeologists and local authorities.

Many people remember the sensation of 2012 - under the parking lot in Leicester, the remains were found not of anyone, but of the last King of the Plantagenet dynasty, the famous Richard III. In the town of Godalming (Surrey), everything also began with a parking lot. No one imagined that the usual verification of a building plot would turn into a multi-year thriller.

Three years ago, the authorities of Godalming decided to build on the place of a parking lot in the historical center of the city several houses under the program “affordable housing”. Available by Godalming standards: this quiet town 50 kilometers from London is one of the three most desirable places to buy property and live in, and by the criterion of "quality of life" it was recognized as the best in the country.

Godalming is a town not only expensive and desirable, it is also very ancient. He was first mentioned in the will of King Alfred the Great in 899. Excavations in Godalming are conducted continuously for the last thirty years, but archaeologists have not found anything particularly outstanding. Something prehistoric, something ancient Roman, quite a lot of artifacts of the Anglo-Saxon period, when the settlement began to flourish - for England such a set is considered quite normal. But, as it turned out recently, archaeologists were simply not looking there. It was necessary to look under the parking lot.

To survey the area allocated for construction, scientists called in March 2013. Archaeological verification is a common practice before

construction begins, almost a formality. But in the first excavation, human bones were discovered. Plans for the building had to be postponed, archaeologists continued to work, Godalming froze in anticipation of their verdict.

The place was fenced with a high, deaf fence, and the city lived for several months with rumors of a find. It seems that everyone who had at least some information spoke on the topic that was fascinating for little Godalming.

Alison Pattison, an employee of the local museum, told the press what she could find out: the found remains are human, most likely ancient, they are quite numerous and are buried, they say, according to the Christian rite. When asked if archaeologists could stumble upon a plague burial, Pattison replied about the following: “Hardly. Godalming is a small city, there have never been so many people here and there!”

Rev. Mervyn Roberts, a canon of the parish church of Peter and Paul - the oldest in Godalming and closest to the place of discovery - suggested reburial the remains of the church cemetery if it is confirmed that the bones are Christian.

Journalists quickly recalled that back in 2007, workers who were digging a hole for drainage in the floor of a house next to a parking lot had found a skeleton and two human skulls in the ground. This old house, known as the Priory Orchard (Monastery Garden), was also planned to be demolished for the sake of building new housing. Having found out about the graves found, his last inhabitant, Chelsea Whiteman, told the press that there were obviously ghosts in the house - she had heard children's laughter, voices and strange noises in empty rooms, objects moved from place to place...

The authorities made a more rational statement: the construction of

new housing will continue as soon as archaeologists complete their work. The haunted house will also be demolished.

And only archaeologists were extremely laconic: they reported that in 2013, during the excavation of a parking lot, the remains of 20 people were found buried, probably about a thousand years ago, most likely, according to Christian rites.

In the spring of 2014, the excavation was announced; in June, the skeletons “safely,” as reported by the local press, extracted and transferred to the Historic Center of Surrey for further study. Representatives of the church once again promised to adequately bury the remains after they are investigated by scientists. The city authorities sighed calmly in the hope of continuing the construction of "affordable housing" - the excavation has already cost the budget a considerable amount, 60 thousand pounds sterling. But in October 2014, vigilant residents of neighboring houses reported that other skeletons had been seen in the ground.

The excavations had to be resumed. In the spring of 2015, archaeologists said that the total number of found skeletons reached 85. According to preliminary estimates, these are early Christian burials of the 9th - 13th centuries. More information could not be obtained - historians and archaeologists simply did not have time to study the finds.

After learning about the number of skeletons, local churches began to think about a new place for their future burial - there were no suitable sites left in the old cemeteries. The city authorities continued to believe in the best that the skeletons would soon end, and the construction of new houses would finally begin. By 2015, the cost of excavation has grown to an astronomical, by budgetary standards, 227 thousand pounds sterling. The authorities plan to include this amount in the cost of the future “affordable housing”, which, as new skeletons appear, becomes

less and less affordable.

January 2016. For the inhabitants of Godalming, the new messages about the excavations are no longer news, but rather a regular release of a multi-series thriller. Publication GetSurrey, all these years, regularly informing the population about the development of events, reported, and referring to the representative of the Surrey County Archeological Service: the number of skeletons found in the former parking lot has increased to three hundred. And the total number of finds, including animal skeletons, medieval ceramics and other artifacts, approaches four hundred.

This time, the local authorities did not tempt fate and chose not to speak out on the timing of the start of affordable housing construction. Rev. Mervyn Roberts does not lose optimism - he still offers to bury the remains at the church, but not in the cemetery, but in the courtyard, and only on condition that hundreds of skeletons will be cremated.

The only ones who keep almost complete silence are historians and archaeologists. Godalming residents and the County Archaeological Service are still waiting for a detailed report from them on the skeletons found. It was assumed that the document will be ready in the summer of 2016. However, researchers have requested more time. The main reason for the delay is clear: the number of skeletons is constantly increasing, to study them, more and more people, time and money are needed.

So far, the findings of scientists are the same: the found human remains are tentatively dated to the 9th - 13th centuries. Probably, under the parking lot they found an ancient cemetery, once referred to the church of Peter and Paul. This is the simplest explanation, chronologically and topographically - the church was built around 820 and rebuilt in the XII century, moreover, it is located literally across the street from the excavation site.

For whatever reason, the cemetery "separated" from the church - is unknown. For researchers, the problem is aggravated by the lack of written historical sources: no records of the ancient cemetery have been preserved, and the maps of medieval Godalming also do not exist. The oldest city plan dates back to 1768, but it is practically not readable due to its small scale. Historians use the plan of 1841, according to which the garden and the “haunted house”, the Priory Orchard, now destined for demolition, was located on the parking lot and future affordable housing.

What was in this place between the 13th and 19th centuries is unknown. At the request of archaeologists, the city and county authorities agreed to give scientists more time to dig and analyze the finds, but asked not to dig outside the future construction site - the budget for the construction of affordable housing in the best city in England, unfortunately, is not rubber.

Artifacts of Ancient Egypt

Ancient Egypt still remains one of the most amazing and interesting civilizations of the ancient world. At the same time, no other civilization causes so many disputes and theories. In our review, 10-ka high-profile scandals, which already in our days flared up around the artifacts of ancient Egypt.

1. The scandal with mummified animals

Mummification of animals is quite common in ancient Egypt, it was usually practiced as an offering to the gods. In fact, in Egypt there was a whole industry for growing dogs, cats, crocodiles and monkeys for their subsequent mummification. After the corpses of animals were properly processed, they were sold for big money to pious Egyptians

who wanted to “secure” themselves the favor of the gods in the afterlife.

But in 2015, scientists at the University of Manchester discovered something that caused a real scandal in the scientific world - in many animals mummies actually weren’t inside animal remains (about two thirds were just dummies stuffed with earth, wood, feathers, eggshell and other materials). Researchers now assume that the demand for mummies simply exceeded the number of sacred animals, and therefore such fakes appeared.

2. Sale of the Sekhemka statue

In 1850, the Marquis of Northampton returned from a trip to Egypt, bringing with him one of the most remarkable ancient Egyptian statues ever discovered. The surprisingly well-preserved statue depicts a royal scribe named Sekhemka, who lived about 2400 - 2300 BC. The descendant of the Marquis later gave the statue to the Northampton Museum, where it took pride of place, as a magnificent example of the art of the Fifth Dynasty.

But in 2015, the museum sold the statue under the hammer to an anonymous private collector for $ 20 million, after which one of the magnificent examples of ancient art became inaccessible to the public. Shocking sale caused an international scandal. Egyptologists warned that the statue in the museum was kept in accordance with all international standards, and in a private collection this would not be possible.

The sale of the statue was considered so outrageous that the Northampton Museum was deprived of official accreditation and funding. In response to outrage, the British government banned the exportation of the statue from the country. The ban will last until March 2016, and during this time the Egyptians are trying to raise $ 25 million using crowdfunding to buy the statue and return it to Egypt.

3. Eviction of Qurnah

On the west bank of the Nile (opposite Luxor and south of the Valley of the Kings) is an ancient necropolis, known as the "Valley of the Nobility." In this burial site are the tombs of high-ranking ancient Egyptians, including the closest advisers of the pharaohs buried in the Valley of the Kings. Archaeologists have long been conducting excavations of the necropolis, but the work is greatly complicated by the fact that right above it is the village of Qurna. The conflict between the Egyptian government and the inhabitants of Qurnah began even before the independence of Egypt.

The government wanted to investigate the tombs and protect them from water damage. There was also a suspicion that residents robbed the grave and secretly sold valuable artifacts. In 1948, the authorities built the “Novaya Kurna” for the villagers, but they refused to move because the new settlement was away from the fields they cultivated, as well as away from the tourist routes. In the 2000s, the new settlement of Taref was built, closer to the hotels, but a number of residents, despite the fact that some of the houses of Qurna have already been bulldozed, still refuse to move.

4. Theory of Correlation with Orion

The great pyramids of Giza have fascinated humanity for millennia, giving rise to countless theories about how and why the Egyptians created such unusual structures. One of the most controversial theories was proposed by the Belgian engineer Robert Bewell in 1994. He argues that the location of the three pyramids perfectly corresponds to the three stars of the Belt of Orion. Other pyramids of the IV dynasty correspond to other stars in the constellation Orion, and the current Nile symbolizes the Milky Way. It has long been recognized that the Egyptians really

used astronomy in the design of the pyramids (by the way, the edges of the pyramids surprisingly exactly coincide with the cardinal points, and then the compass simply did not exist, so the Egyptians could only navigate by the stars).

As a result, Bewell's theory aroused great interest. Although now the pyramids of Giza are in fact completely different from the belt of Orion, scientists have calculated that the pyramids could be built around 10500 BC, when the belt of Orion looked completely different in the sky. Although this date "only-only" for 8000 years does not coincide with the generally accepted date of construction of the pyramids, the theory is popular today.

5. Aliens

Bewell's theory of the relationship with Orion is not the only one that implies the relationship of the pyramids and the cosmos. For many years, various false scientists have argued that such spectacular monuments could only be created with the help of aliens. In November 2010, the Internet shook the story under the heading "Egyptian archeologist acknowledged that the pyramids contain UFO technology."

History Doctor Ala Shahin, head of the department of archeology at the University of Cairo, sensationally stated at the conference that "the theory that aliens helped the ancient Egyptians to build the oldest of the pyramids of Giza may be true." He added that "there is something obviously unearthly inside the pyramids," but then refused to comment on his words. Subsequently, Dr. Shahin himself denied that he "spoke such nonsense."

6. Rosetta Stone

In the British Museum you can see some of the most impressive

exhibits from around the world. Unfortunately, many countries are not too happy with the fact, claiming that their heritage was stolen during the colonial era. One of the most controversial treasures in the bins of the museum is the famous Rosetta stone of ancient Egypt. The latest knowledge of the Egyptian hieroglyphs died after the fall of the Roman Empire, therefore, early historians were perplexed about strange characters.

The breakthrough came during Napoleon’s invasion of Egypt in 1799, when an engineer discovered a strange stone stele near the city of Rosetta. The same text was printed on it in three languages - ancient Greek, Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs and Egyptian demotic writing. So the French archaeologists for the first time were able to decipher the hieroglyphs. It is not entirely clear how the British seized the Rosetta stone, but it is still in the British Museum. In recent years, the Egyptian government has insisted on its return.

7. Damaged Cartouche

In 2013, three Germans who claimed to be archaeologists received permission to visit the Great Pyramid at Giza. In fact, none of the Germans was an archaeologist. They were the champions of the theory that the pyramids are much older than is commonly believed, and were built as "power stations" by the inhabitants of Atlantis. Inside the pyramid, the Germans managed to scrape off part of the "Khufu Cartouche" - an ancient graffiti that identified Pharaoh Khufu as the builder of the pyramid.

The Germans thought the cartouche was a 19th-century fake and took samples to Germany for testing. A scandal broke out, after which the German government arrested "archaeologists" and returned the samples to Egypt. The Egyptian government condemned five officials who gave the accused access to the pyramid.

8. Frankenstein-Nefertiti

Nefertiti, whose name literally means "beautiful came" – it’s one of the most famous queens of ancient Egypt, known for its beauty and political influence. Her image in our time is largely formed because of the magnificent statue of the work of the ancient sculptor Thutmose. Not surprisingly, the authorities of the Egyptian city of Samalut decided to put their copy of the queen's bust.

The result was a scandal, because the replica was just disgusting. She immediately became the subject of widespread ridicule in Egypt, where the locals compared her with the monster of Frankenstein. The resonance was so strong that the statue was soon demolished, and in January 2016 a new, less grotesque replica of the famous bust was installed.

9. Chinese graffiti

Built on the site of the city of Thebes, the capital of ancient Egypt, modern Luxor you can find many 3,500-year-old tombs, temples and statues. Not surprisingly, Luxor has become one of the most popular tourist destinations in Egypt. On May 24, 2013, Chinese blogger Shen Yuven posted on the web a picture of an ancient Egyptian temple in Luxor with an inscription in Chinese "Jing Jinhao was here."

As a result, the Egyptians and the Chinese soon found the culprit. It turned out to be 15-year-old Ding Jinhao from Nanjing. His parents apologized for their son's vandal act, and the restorers successfully removed the graffiti.

10. Tutankhamen

Tutankhamen’s golden mask is one of the most iconic images of ancient Egypt after Howard Carter discovered Tutankhamun’s tomb in 1922. Therefore, many were shocked by the recent BBC documentary "Tutankhamen: Undisguised Truth", in which it was stated that Pharaoh had abnormally twisted legs, protruding teeth, almost female breasts and obviously "feminine hips."

The film claimed that a virtual reconstruction of the face of the Pharaoh boy was made, using more than 2000 computer scans of his mummy and genetic analysis of his family. The results suggest that Pharaoh suffered from a number of birth defects caused by whole generations of inbreeding, as well as gynecomastia and epilepsy.

The largest underwater treasure

Frames on which underwater archaeologists get the largest treasure in world history from the sunken Spanish galleon of the 18th century, San José, spread all over the world. The ship was located at the bottom of the Caribbean off the coast of Colombia, and its value is estimated at 10 billion dollars. No wonder that today the treasures have become the reason for this international scandal. Several countries cannot divide them among themselves.

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos wrote on his page on social networks: "Great news! We found the galleon." However, such joy is considered premature by the American company Sea Search Armada. After all, she discovered the ship 30 years ago, in 1981.

Then the firm and the government of Colombia entered into an agreement that all raised values will be divided equally. But in 2011, the authorities changed their mind and said that the treasure belonged exclusively to Colombia. The company is now demanding compensation

of several billion dollars for breach of contract. Spain claims its rights to the treasures. After all, it belonged to her sunken galleon San Jose. In 1708, he left the Colombian city of Cartagena in order to deliver wealth from the Latin American colonies to the European metropolis of King Philip V. This money was necessary for the Spanish government to wage war against Britain.

However, the ship did not reach its destination, as it was attacked by British ships under the command of Sir Charles Wager.

"Cartagena was one of the most important colonial ports. It united all the cities of South and Central America. It was important for the British to capture it. Indeed, in that case they could control the whole New World," said anthropologist Carlos del Carlo.

This battle went down in history as the attack of Wager, or the Battle of Baru. Four British ships attacked 14 Spanish merchant ships, a light-armed sailing ship and three galleons. The British knew that it was necessary to attack the largest ships, because there is the most gold there.

“There is a silver one, there is a golden one, it was a diamond fleet. And a diamond one, because there were mostly precious stones on it. The reserves of precious stones and metals on this vessel were estimated at these times at three billion dollars, to understand. This is a very huge amount. Eleven million, in fact, with that money, "says oceanologist Leonid Gavrilov.

The battle between the Expedition ship and the Spanish San Jose galleon lasted an hour and a half. But soon the explosion thundered, and the “San Jose” sank along with the crew of 600 people and all the treasures. And although the British won this naval battle, they were left with nothing. From the remaining ships, they managed to extract only a few chests with Spanish pesos and 14 pieces of silver. Some experts

suggest that the Spaniards deliberately blew up their ship so that the treasures would not reach the enemy.

"I think this is an equally probable version, and it is not possible to prove it now. Because the English projectile was likely to hit the powder magazine: such things happened quite often in sea battles. And, on the other hand, if the Spaniards felt they were doomed that the ship would be captured, they had no choice but to sink it and not give this gold to their worst enemies, ”said Nikolai Cherkashin, a member of the Moscow club of treasure hunters.

Since then, the sunken Spanish galleon "San Jose" dreamed of finding treasure hunters from around the world. They called him none other than the "Holy Grail" of all the ships sunk in these parts. According to estimates by underwater archaeologists, in the coral reefs of Colombia and off the coast of the West Indies there are more than 1,000 Spanish galleons and merchant ships. This is a real Mecca for treasure hunters.

"Just look at the map of the submerged ships - we will see that in the area of the islands of the Caribbean, the archipelagoes of the Caribbean, in the region of the same Argentina and Mexico there are quite a few badges that signify the sunk ships. therefore, San Jose is probably the first swallow, ”said Nikolai Cherkashin.

But not only Colombia can boast of the wealth that is hidden under the water. For centuries, treasure hunters from all over the world have been flocking to the coast of Florida. They call it the "treasure coast". Many ships of the Spanish Imperial Navy sank there.

Ships filled with wealth from the American colonies played an important role in the Spanish economy of the XVII-XVIII centuries. The metropolis needed this money more than ever. The country was going through difficult times. Because of the thirty-year Anglo-Spanish war,

the treasury was rapidly emptying, the people became poorer, and inflation was 300%.

"Well, no matter how much gold it is, there is always a shortage of it. Nevertheless, Spain was the main supplier of silver and gold in Europe, because in the literal sense of the word, it has been pumping out silver, gold, precious metals, stones from the countries of South America and from their colonies, and thanks to this, they have reached their power and greatness, "said Nikolai Cherkashin.

Ensuring that the Spanish galleons were filled with treasure, entrepreneur Joseph Robinson was able to experience. A few years ago, his name never left the screens, because he made a sensational discovery during his deep-sea exploration called "Odyssey". At a depth of almost 400 meters near the island of Tortuga in the Caribbean, he discovered a 400 year old Spanish galleon. Among the wreckage of the ship, Robinson found old gold bars. In addition, he raised silver, pearls and many other amazing artifacts of the time. Moreover, Joseph Robinson created the Odyssey site of the same name. On it, the treasure hunter posted photos and descriptions of 17,000 different items that were lifted from sunken Spanish ships off the Coast of Tortuga Island over the past 20 years. These are earthenware jugs, painted crockery, coins.

Some historians call the coast of Florida not the "treasure coast", but the triangle of death, by analogy with Bermuda. By mysterious circumstances, it was here, for several centuries, the ships of the Spanish fleet sank. For example, in 1715, 11 ships of two Spanish fleets: the Treasury, or in another way, the Gold, and the fleet of New Spain — the Silver.

The ships were loaded with gold from mines in Peru and Colombia, as well as emeralds from famous Colombian copies. In addition, the ships brought gold and silver from the mines of Mexico, silk and ivory

products from Cuban traders. Moreover, the researchers say that the treasures in the holds were two times more than usual. The fact is that the reigning king of Spain at that time, Philip V, was in love with the Duchess of Parma. In order to play a magnificent wedding, worthy of the monarch, the ruler needed a lot of money. In addition, on these ships were chests loaded with jewels and jewelry for beloved Philip. The ships hit the storm and went to the bottom. Then it managed to raise only 30 percent of all treasures. The rest of it remained lying in the sea ground. Since then, treasure hunters again and again immersed in local waters, hoping to find this amazing treasure.

"I believe that a very small part was raised, because a real technical search has just begun. Over the last 20-30 years, the underwater search technology has made a sharp leap forward. Various scanners have appeared, various sonar devices have appeared, which help to find sunken objects, even if they are covered with sand, even if they are not visually visible with the help of television cameras. Therefore, the 21st century promises us more than one discovery of this kind," said Nikolai Cherkashin.

Recently, the American treasure hunter Brent Brisbane with the crew of the ship "La Capitan" smiled luck. The team found 350 gold coins minted specifically for King Philip V. Off the coast of Florida. Their total cost is $ 4.5 million. A few years ago, another dive found a treasure - the American family Sanford Rick and Lisa Schmitt. These were decorations and coins of the XVIII century in the amount of 300 thousand dollars, and in 2002 they raised from the bottom in the same place a silver dish worth 25 thousand dollars.

"You can only dream about it! Find royal coins, find things of that era! Many people try to do it for 40-50 years. And their attempts remain unsuccessful," said Sandford treasure hunter Rick.

However, researchers say that today only half of the treasures that are under water are raised. On the remaining six Spanish galleons of the "gold" and "silver" fleets that were still not found, values of $ 250 million remained.

“They are constantly being searched for, because information is becoming more and more open. There is also such a moment that not only silver and gold are valuable. How, for example, was San Jose found? It was identified by bronze cannons on which dolphins are engraved. Cost these guns, it is equal to palladium, not even gold. That is, if you take the historical value. Because it is the gun from this ship, "says oceanologist Leonid Gavrilov.

Many ships did not sail to Europe, not only because of storms; the danger to the captains of trade expeditions was represented by enemy British ships. Moreover, in order to destroy the ship of the enemy, the British did not have to even shoot. Not so long ago, the galleon "San Michel Archangel" was discovered off the coast of Florida. On board managed to find coins, jewelry and crafts made of ivory. In 1659, the ship left Peru, loaded with gold and silver, and headed for Spain. On the way, the "San Michel Archangel" went briefly to Havana, where he was trapped by the enemy ships of England. Then there was the Anglo-Spanish war. In order to avoid the danger, the galleon had to go out into the open sea under the cover of night in bad weather. Caught in a storm, the "San Michel Archangel" sank.

Experts are sure that the sunken galleons for many decades will attract treasure hunters from all over the world to this region, because anyone can get lucky, and the Spanish treasures are waiting for their new owners.

Mysterious Sufis

Needless to say, humanity has always been attracted to mysticism, especially in a foreign culture! When we meet with references to Sufis, fakirs from Eastern fairy tales come to mind. They are poor, but they can at any moment get a lot of gold, cure all diseases, transfer their young adventurer to the fortress in an instant, where the dev keeps his bride, and even give very good advice on how to defeat the monster. The tale is known to be a lie... But what is the salt, if I may say so, of the Sufi tales? In general, who are the Sufis and how do they intrigue the attention of humanity in general?

This question interested researchers quite late, when the heyday of mystical Sufi culture had already passed, most could see only fragments of rituals, such as dervish dances “myself”, walking on coals, meditative trances and other exotic rather than historical phenomena.

Nowadays, when numerous religions and creeds lay claim to the right of spiritual mentoring of a modern person, the words “Sufi”, “Sufi” and “Sufism” still remain a secret behind seven seals for almost everyone. Meanwhile, for thousands of years, the scientists of the Near and Middle East, and then the rest of the world, tried to comprehend the essence of Sufism. But even now it is premature to say that we know who such Sufis are, to put it mildly. Therefore, any attempts to answer this question can be considered as the first step on the way to comprehending this truly exciting mystery ...

There are several assumptions regarding the emergence of the term "Sufi". The most common one says that the word "Sufi" comes from the Arabic word "Suf", which means "wool", "creeper", "coarse wool fabric". Perhaps this word called people wearing coarse woolen cloaks. Namely such practical clothes were preferred by wandering ascetics. There is a more elegant linguistic solution: the term "Su-Su" is derived from the word "Safo" - "pure".

The idea that the word comes from the Greek "Sophia" - wisdom, does not seem so improbable, in any case, Sufism, in contrast to orthodox Islam, is a teaching tolerable to someone else's wisdom. There is also an opinion that the word “Sufi” comes from the Arabic word “Suffa” - “stone bench”, where the companions and friends of Muhammad gathered. And some researchers believe that Sufis are a tribe that lived in the Kaaba (a place of pilgrimage for Muslims) and worshiped the sacred stone in the pre-Islamic era.

Wisdom developed over the centuries, Sufis clothed in a brief, aphoristic, easily remembered parables. Thus, the tales of Hodja Nasreddin familiar to us from childhood are a true collection of Sufi wisdom. They were easily remembered and taught to think. The wisdom of the Sufis was visible, bright, spectacular; it is not surprising that it attracted great interest from Europeans. Western travelers, right up to the beginning of the 20th century, were impressed by Sufism, as a rule, becoming witnesses of joint prayers (dhikr) of Sufi orders-tariqats or rituals “itself”.

“Sama” is a mass action consisting of reciting poems, performing songs and ritual dances with special music. Sufis of the Order of Maulavia (revolving dervishes) sang, rotated in place, falling into an ecstatic state. “Sam” gathered a huge number of spectators who, being captured by what was happening, joined the dances and often also fell into a trance.

Modern science takes the ancient psychotechnicians of Sufism very seriously; it still cannot provide a rational explanation of their secrets, much less reproduce the result. Sufis cure diseases that medicine has refused, change consciousness, and almost fly through the air...

In encyclopedias, Sufism is defined as “a religious-philosophical

doctrine (mystic-ascetic current) that has developed within the framework of Islam.” It is also called "folk Islam." Saying that Sufism “grew up” from Islam, it is worth remembering: the relationship between Sufism and orthodox Islam is not as simple and cloudless as it may seem at first glance. Sufis - the inspired mystics of Islam. They believe that "Sufism is the experience of being." Renunciation of the world, rejection of one's own small personality and its new acquisition in a comprehensive union with God - this is the main goal of Sufism, which a person can achieve only in a state of ecstatic delight after going through many “stops” on the “path” to higher perfection.

Sufis are a rather motley group of ascetics, hermits, dervishes and fanatical spiritual devotees, who, in their religious zeal, are ready to give up everything in the name of faith and strive to become closer to God through righteous life, to know his highest divine truth.

Sufism is characterized by a combination of metaphysics with ascetic practice. Sufis in coarse woolen capes are peculiar "Muslim monks". They did not appear immediately, like their Christian brethren, and the strengthening of Sufism was associated (as was also the case in Christianity) with a certain reaction of zealous supporters of the purity of the Islamic idea to the perversion of this idea by the powerful, first of all the Caliphs by the end of the 7th century, far from the norms bequeathed by the prophet. True, Muhammad himself did not call for asceticism and monasticism, considering, according to the Hadith, that Muslim monasticism is jihad. However, he treated the ascetics with respect, and he saw in abstinence almost the highest virtue.

Some researchers believe (we have already mentioned this) that Sufis as such existed before Islam, but the doctrine itself did not have a definite name. Others argue that the early stage of the development of Sufism falls on the VII-X century, at this time it, having separated from asceticism, formed into a completely independent religious-

philosophical-moral teaching.

At the root of Sufism - along with the dogmas of the Quran - there were some other teachings. Thanks to Mohammed and his followers in the vast spaces of the East, monotheistic Islam became the dominant religion. And it was Islam who was destined to become a bridge between the Christian Western world, which absorbed Hellenism and Judaism, and the worlds of Buddha and Lao Tzu, from which the very concept of “Path” and some accompanying views were borrowed, as well as meditation used by Sufis.

Sufism went from practice to theory, from sensory experience to canons. It is based more on knowledge than on doctrines, and initially its carriers were dervish wanderers, wandering through the vast expanses of the world from Gibraltar to the Ganges. “The wind transports loose seeds to where they will germinate, if there is a possibility. To a casual observer, the action of the wind may seem hostile to the seed. But what then is the function of the wind, if not to provide the seeds with the driving force they need? ”These words of Sufi sheikh Bahaudtsin illustrate in some sense “cosmopolitanism” of Sufi knowledge.”

So it makes no sense to territorially bind or search for it in a particular region. Sufi orders or brotherhoods are rarely tied to a place or time, for the very attachment to something contradicts Sufism. The teacher can give his baraka (a very ambiguous concept is a blessing, a vital essence, a meaning of being, a spirit; something that starts everything) and send a student to distant lands, and then the ideas of this fraternity will sprout in a completely different form and place

The first religious communities of the Sufis appeared in Iraq (Kufa, Basra, Baghdad) and Syria, then they quickly spread from Spain to India. But neither at that time, nor at the further stages of its development (X-end of the XII century; XIII-XY; XYI-XY centuries), Sufism did not

become a harmonious, clearly formulated and strictly defined system of views. This was especially clearly manifested in the heyday of Sufism - after the X century. Then he absorbed and adapted the ideas of ancient mystical-idealistic philosophy and Christian theosophy, combining them with local religious traditions and folk beliefs of paganism.

Among the teachings that Sufism has absorbed, historians also call Neo-Platonism with its thesis on divine emanation, on the objects of the world as a mirror reflecting the divine. The influence of Hinduism, Manichaeism and Buddhism on Sufism is undoubtedly also. Finally, Christian asceticism played its role, an example of which was so vivid and lively, especially in Egypt and Syria.

Sufism was also enriched by borrowing from Judaism: there were contacts between the early Basra ascetics and the Jewish Hassidim ("pious sages"), and in Sufi literature in general, "pious among the children of Israel", partly really existing, and partly invented, were a favorite topic of instructive stories . Malik Ibn Dinar, head of the second generation of Iraqi mystics, abundantly quotes Jewish sources.

In turn, the distinct traces of Sufi influence reveal the poems of P1lo-mo Ibn Gabirol, written in 1075 in Bahai's Arabic work "Duties of the Heart". This work marks Judaism's perception of Muslim "ascetic theology". The "Duties of the Heart" translated into Hebrew has become the most popular Jewish book on religious piety.

All these mutual influences, processing on an Islamic basis gave rise to synthesis, which later became the basis of Sufism.

Thus, Sufism is not only a product of the influence of other cultures; it was itself a serious factor in influencing a non-Islamic civilization. Generally speaking, if you look at European culture, then many significant phenomena are of Eastern origin. XII-XIII century - the

time of the Crusades and the Reconquista in Spain are also a time of active penetration into Eastern Europe of the culture of the East. Traces of Islamic influence are clearly visible in architecture: for example, the pointed, or Gothic, arch, which gave the name to the whole architectural style, according to some historians, originates in Arabic architecture. The poetry of the neighboring Arabic Spain had a decisive influence on the poetry of the troubadours.

The great Dante and many of his literary contemporaries used symbols and expressions borrowed from Persian and Arabic Sufi poetry in their work. The well-known modern scholar and interpreter of Sufism, Sayyid Idris Shah, argues that under the obvious Sufi influence were Augustine, Francis of Assisi, the Templars, the English poet Chaucer and the German poet and thinker Goethe. It is believed that many great Persian-Tajik poets, such as Saadi, Hafiz, Omar Khayyam, were Sufis. Tales of 1001 nights, anecdotes about Hodja Nasreddin, Cervantes' novel Don Quixote - all this is created under strong Sufi influence and has a secret meaning hidden from the uninitiated.

As for science, some of the natural sciences branches of knowledge were fully borrowed by Europe from Islamic civilization. Chemistry, for example, still retains its Arabic name. The alchemical (and, more broadly, hermetic) boom in Europe was prepared by writings that began to be translated from Arabic into Latin since the 12th century. In 1085, Herald of Cremon even founded a special school in Toledo, where Arabic manuscripts were translated into Latin and studied.

If you take astronomy, then its technical terms in all European languages for the most part indicate their Arabic origin. In astrology, the names of most celestial bodies are Arab until our time. Through Muslim intermediaries, many technical inventions also fall into Europe: water and mechanical clocks, gunpowder, paper, magnetic needle, astrolabes, and others. Regarding mathematics, we can say that not only figures used

by Europeans, known as Arabic (although they are of Indian origin), and the whole mathematical science, unknown to antiquity, is algebra, have as their source the Muslim East.

Some pages of the work of a 13th century Franciscan monk Raimund Llull (many mathematicians admitted that he was at the origins of modern combinatorics and informatics) and some of the most important seem to be quotes from the works of an eminent thinker of the Muslim Middle Ages, theologian and Sufi philosopher Muhdi al-Din Muhammad ibn al-Arabi (1165 1240).

Although the question of the direct influence or the borrowing of the ideas of the “Greatest Teacher” (Sheikh Al-Akbar), as Islamic authorities called him, is still not fully resolved in the scientific world today. But many of the drawings of the Arab thinker, and the very name of his work “The Image of Circles, Covering the Similitude of Man to the Creator and the Created World,” clearly echoes the content of the work of Lulia's “Great Art”, which contains drawings and “rules of use” of the logical machine.

Llull knew Arabic and most of his writing was written on it; he was strongly influenced by Sufism. As Lully himself admitted, his “Tale of the Lover and Beloved” was written in a Sufi manner. “Lully not only studied Sufism practically by doing certain exercises, but also passed on this knowledge further ...” notes Idris Shah.

The ideas of Sufism spread rapidly throughout the Muslim world, despite the open and sometimes fierce struggle with it by the official clergy. Sufis tried to show people the direct path to God, and this caused the hostile attitude of the Islamic orthodox theologians towards them. Sufis were persecuted, and among them appeared martyrs, victims and even executed for their beliefs. But, as has happened more than once in the history of mankind, repression only increased interest in the

forbidden and persecuted doctrine, it became more widespread.

Under these conditions, the orthodox Islamists found the only correct way out: they recognized the teaching of the Sufis as one of the branches of Islam and thus legalized it. In time, they got used to the Sufis. For their holiness and devotion to faith, for their zealous service to Allah and sacrifice for his sake, they gained the respect of Muslims who saw in contact with dervishes, in giving and serving them the surest means to join their holiness, to approach Allah. Gradually, Sufis began to feel more confident in the Islamic world; the authorities recognized them and, moreover, began to make extensive use of their authority and calls to submit to the will of Allah.

By the 9th century, Sufism had matured features; very curious social formations appeared — peculiar centers of Sufism in the form of inns for wandering Sufis. These monasteries were called khanaka, or ribat, and served as an informal club of interests. For some time, knowledge seekers lived and exchanged spiritual experience in the khanaka, while hermit's ascetics and disciples came here. Thus, various spiritual practices became available to a greater number of applicants and, as a result, their systematization and description took place. Thus, the khanaka community combined several functions simultaneously: mosque, caravanserai, school, and bazaar.

If early Sufism existed, as it were, in parallel with the life of ordinary people, then "developed" Sufism escaped as much as possible of this ordinary life. Without abandoning the traditional all-Muslim practices, the mystics flavored them with exotic exercises like a forty-day fast in a grave pit or a prayer upside down. In addition, wanting to devote as much time as possible to spiritual exercises, the mystics refused to create a family and active participation in public life. The student was not trained in the traditional sense, but mastered the method offered to the best of his abilities and abilities, listening to the teacher,

observing him and repeating his actions.

But even the most unusual people needed some rules when they began to live on the same territory. Most likely, the first rules of the hostel in khanaka were first in circulation in oral form, determined by the traditional rules of coexistence under the same roof and the host-guest relationship.

But in the XI century, a detailed code appears, attributed to the famous Khorasan mystic Abu Said Abu al-Khaira Mayhani (967-1049). Each of the ten points of the code was supported by references to the Quran and related to daily activities. These are recommendations for sharing all activities. For example, it was not recommended even to leave the khanaka without informing the brethren before that. That is, in the union of Sufi mystics, characteristic features of a religious order appear. In general, the similarity of the Sufis with the Christian monastic orders - or, more precisely, the knightly-monastic orders with the Sufis - is so striking that it is impossible not to notice. For example, the Templars, being Christians, having learned a lot from Eastern wisdom, did not ignore the Sufi system with their attention.

It is believed that in addition to the obvious, declared goals, such as the protection of Christian pilgrims, the Templars had some secret goals. One of them is to do everything possible to establish links between Christianity and Islam. There is a number of documentary evidence that, despite the constant military clashes between the Christian and Muslim armies in the Holy Land, there were very close contacts between the Templars and some Islamic brotherhoods of the East.

It is known that the Templars signed secret treaties with the Muslim Ismaili sect, which was demonstrated several times during clashes between Arab and Templar parts, in which both sides demonstrated a true knightly attitude to each other. There were also contacts with the

brotherhood of the assassins, the secret brotherhood, and an offshoot of the Ismailis, formed around 1090 under the leadership of Hasan al-Sabbah - "The Elder of the Mountain." And certainly there was a definite connection with Sufism. Therefore, the organization of the brotherhood of Nua-Sufis and its rules were very similar to the organization and rules of the Templars.

The flowering of the Sufi tradition coincides with the flowering of the order of the Temple. However, the most famous Sufi brotherhoods arose between the XII and XIV centuries. The twentieth century is called the true age of Sufism. Therefore, it is very likely that it was during this period that the Templars, fulfilling the mission mentioned above, carefully collected all possible information about the spiritual aspects of Islam. Theorists of early Sufism, like many other Eastern sages, considered the purpose of their teaching moral perfection of man, and not the creation of mass organizations participating in the political life of countries and peoples. And it was precisely the political "non-engagement" of the teaching that attracted to him the greatest intellectuals of the Islamic Renaissance - scholars and poets. They were also attracted by the deep tolerance of this teaching, which allows any, if only sincere, Path to God! This strong humanistic impulse opened the way to the hearts of Europeans for Sufism.

At that time, there was much talk about the inheritance of the traditions of the religion of Abraham through Melchizedek. This heritage, as some scholars believe, has gradually become the foundational teachings of Christianity, Islam and Judaism. And precisely st. Bernard and the Templars supposedly should have reunited them. However, success in reuniting these branches of the religious Abrahamic teachings to the Templars was not destined to be achieved. Although, they were able to maintain constant contacts with Islam and to perceive some of its provisions, as already mentioned above. Through the sects of the Essenes and Kabbalists, the Templars also perceived some elements

of Judaism - and all this, taken together, in a certain way stimulated the spirituality of the inhabitants of the West throughout the next centuries. Subsequently, Maltese knights also devoted a lot of time to studying Sufi practices and rules, but this story does not belong to the Middle Ages.

Gradually, the model of patriarchal relations within an ordinary family is transferred to relations within the spiritual community of the khanak: the eldest sheikh is the father, the pupils of the same age are older brothers, the younger ones are younger. In other words, in the community, there is a gradual division of functions, both among teachers and among students, that is, a hierarchical ladder is being formed, based on obedience to elders.

Hanaka is changing, its device is complicated. The spiritual community itself, step by step, becomes more and more isolated, emphasizing its elitism and chosenness in the possession of spiritual knowledge. Now it's not so easy to enter it. To become a member, you must pass the probation and initiation ceremony. And now, the khanaka begins to interact with the secular authorities and in many regions receives support and funding from it. But, despite the emergence of a hierarchy, it is not very correct to directly call Sufi unions as orders. Sufism creates a hierarchy led by the sheikh, but takes into account the existence of some hidden spiritual leaders. In this order, the Grand Master is one.

In addition to wandering Sufis who have settled in the khanak, they, as a rule, are known as legendary wandering dervishes and wandering sages who have all the answers. Everyone knows the Sufi term "dervish". This word denotes a beggar who goes door to door asking for alms. It is believed that the word was originally pronounced "darviz" and came from "daraviz" - "one who holds the door." When the word "dervish" is used to refer to spiritual poverty and the need for God, it is synonymous with the words "Sufi" and "fakir", and therefore, when

translated into Persian, the Arabic "fakir" is replaced with the Persian "dervish."

The Sufi tradition regards wandering dervishes as seekers and minimally connected with the world, and those who have settled in the khanaka - as those who have found and associated themselves with the world. These two categories seem to complement each other: wandering Sufis bring new methods of mystical knowledge to the khanaka, and knowledge is systematized and preserved in the khanaka. The journey is the main spiritual practice of the wandering Sufi and symbolizes his rejection of attachments and needs. On the way with him he has only the necessary minimum of things: a staff, a prayer rug and a vessel for washing. The external purpose of his journey can be either a hajj or a visit to a khanaka to meet and exchange knowledge.

Sufi ideas introduced deep spirituality into Islam, softening its harsh rationalism, forced them to take a different look at man, his role and place in society and nature.

In addition to intellectual Sufism - this kingdom of theological and theosophical philosophy - pragmatic Sufism developed in close cooperation with it, also represented by many trends and trends, which, in principle, boil down to two main schools. Both of them developed “in practice” and philosophically substantiated the idea of the possibility of intuitive communication with a deity, translating it into real psychotechnical techniques.

In the late Middle Ages and later, attitudes toward Sufism often changed from state support to rejection by orthodox Islam. Around 1740, Mohammed ibn Abd al-Wahhab, the founder of the Wahhabi movement, re-launched a campaign against Sufism, accusing him of idolatry. His followers destroyed many of the graves of the sheikhs in Arabia. In Turkey, the influence of Sufism was enormous, there were many Sufi

communities. In the 20th century, the secular nationalist government of Ataturk banned Sufi brotherhoods and the holding of mass rites at the graves of sheikhs.

By 1920, all Muslim countries, with the exception of Turkey, Persia, Saudi Arabia and Afghanistan, were conquered and converted into colonies. With the destruction of the local government structure, Sufi brotherhoods began to play an important role and in many places became centers of resistance. The attitude of the colonial authorities towards them was twofold: on the one hand, they were afraid of the influence of religious leaders, on the other, they realized that by concluding peace with religious authority, they would get a relatively stable environment. Thus, the French conquerors strengthened the Sufi Order of Rahmani so that it would become a universal church. And the British interacted widely with many Sufi communities in Punjab, thereby consolidating their power.

Today, Sufi Islam, which absorbed the wisdom of the Jewish Kabbalah, the spiritual depth of Brahminism and Lao Tzu, the secret rites of European knightly orders, opposes the militant Muslim radicals, many Sufi sheikhs are fighting with Islamic fundamentalism without sparing forces. Sufis understand that either the external (from non-Muslim countries) fight against fundamentalism can lead to the fact that Islam will be banned, like the Nazi ideology, without distinction between theological subtleties. If Wahhabism wins, then Sufi orders will be banned as carriers of the dangerous heresy of free-thinking. Because Sufism first of all teaches the believer to think, and fundamentalism prohibits not only thinking independently, but even studying the comments on the Qur'an so that unnecessary thoughts do not appear in the head.

Sufism is a living religion. To understand this, it is enough to visit, for example, Pakistan during the period of some traditional holiday. In

this country, the authorities are very loyal to Sufism, and often during ceremonies, the city's fathers with the governor at the head are present at the sheikh's grave. Quite sensible moderate Muslims in their ideas about the world largely "coincide" with the Sufis.

All of the above refers to the historical fate of the Sufi teachings, but does not give an answer how to become a Sufi. "Sufi cannot be - they need to be! And the first goal of the Sufi doctrine is to help a person who does not know that he is a Sufi to comprehend his Sufi essence, "says the modern Sufi sage Idris Schach.

"To be a Sufi means to be what you were before you came to this world," the famous Sufi, Baghdad Sheikh Abu Bakr al-Shibli, said on this occasion.

"I never belonged to a country, a state, a circle of friends, or my family. As a young man, I had already clearly realized the futility of hopes and aspirations, the fulfillment of which most people have been striving for all their life, "wrote Albert Einstein himself, not knowing how it sounds in Sufi.

Al-Hujwiri from Ghazni, an Iranian theorist and historian of Sufism, had foreseen the fate of his teaching in the eleventh century. He wrote in the book "Uncovering the hidden behind the veil" that several thousand "secret sufi" lived and will live on Earth at all times, and many of them will not even guess about the perfection of their condition.

It is these people who give human history a certain direction, ensuring its approach to the Truth.

The path to its goal "secret sufi" can go with the teacher, and then it will probably be easier, more pleasant and faster. But the same path can be traveled independently, for the great Sufi teachers of the past - Ibn Arabi, Manayi, Khayyam, Sa'di, Attar, Rumi, Hafiz, Jami, Ansari and many others - left their signs on it for those who followed. But this

independent path will turn out to be, perhaps, more difficult, burdened with hesitations and doubts ... When the first goal is reached and the person realizes himself, another world begins to open up, another Universe, the very one that, according to al-Khujviri, is hidden behind a veil of human vanity.

The second and main goal of the Sufi teaching is to help the Sufi in his ascent to the Truth. The guiding star in this movement is one for all the sufis, and her name is Love. The significance of Love in the Sufi world view is so great that the great Sheikh Ibn Arabi and his followers called the Sufi world view the "religion of Love."

The mystical practices of the Sufis, their methods of psychotechnology are now very popular in different countries. The Sufi tradition has enriched the world with its poetry, music and parables, which can be enjoyed regardless of religion. Sufi teaching methods are popular among modern spiritual seekers because of their dynamism and grace. It is difficult to imagine a modern person living in a cave, not burdened with any property. But the Sufi tradition gives a broad interpretation of the concept of "poverty." Kushairi said this very well:

"Sufi feels like a poor man when he is rich, humble, when powerful and inconspicuous when he is famous." He also notes that those who not only own things, but appreciate them, will sooner or later become their prisoner and be inaccessible to the divine world. The modern Sufi does not refuse the benefits of the material world, moreover, in many modern Sufi schools the necessary stage of education is the attainment of welfare. Because there is no special merit being modest, when you just cannot afford luxury. In the Sufi tradition there is no indulgence in weakness, it is the way for the hardworking and hardy.

“The walled garden of Truth” was the name of his book Sanayi, the great Sufi and poet from Khorosan. We must try to find the door in this

wall and open it. This is not for everyone. Having come to the end of his life under the powerful influence of Sufi poetry, Sergey Yesenin wrote:

... In Khorosan there are such doors
But I could not open those doors.

Everyone has his own way to the Garden of Truth, and it is not easy to find it, but it is necessary to search. And in conclusion – is a modern Sufi parable. It may not be as elegant as the parables of the al-Ghazali era, but it will help to understand the essence of modern Sufis.

“The little frog landed in a deep rut on the road. She jumped for a long time, trying to get out, finally exhausted. Her older sister sat on top, but could not help her. A man appeared on the road, he bent over the frogs and spoke in their language. The elder frog told him about their misfortune. The man straightened up and looked away.

“Soon your torment will end,” he told the little frog. - Won rides a huge truck!

At the same time, the little frog jumped out of the rut. ”

The Mystery of the Great Sphinx

The giant statue of the mysterious beast guards the secret of the elixir of immortality. Alchemists of the Middle Ages literally prayed for Hermes Trismegistus (Hermes Thrice Greatest). According to the legends, this was the founder of esoteric knowledge, who owned the secrets of the production of the “philosopher's stone” with the help of which any metal could be turned into gold. It served as a "philosopher's stone" and the basis for the production of the elixir of immortality.

Little is known about the personality of Trismegistus himself. It

seems that he was the son of an Egyptian god named Thoth, and built the first pyramid on the banks of the Nile. This allows us to hope that the recipe for the elixir of immortality is still stored there - near the pyramid complex in Giza. And more specifically - in the depths of the statue of the Great Sphinx.

The mysterious Sphinx, frozen at the foot of the pyramids, fell into their shadow in the literal and figurative sense. Although this is one of the grandest sculptures of all times and peoples (height over 20 meters, length 57 meters), it is lost in front of the grandeur of the tombs of the pharaohs. Perhaps this is why researchers have always perceived a strange statue as something secondary, accompanying ancient tombs. However, there is every reason to believe that the Sphinx keeps in itself countless treasures.

Today the Sphinx is sick. Time and people did not spare him. Especially people tried. One of the rulers of Egypt ordered to repel the nose of a stone statue. At the beginning of the eighteenth century, another tyrant was shooting at the face of a cannon sculpture. Napoleonic soldiers fired into the eyes of the Sphinx from guns. The British lords beat off a giant stone beard and took it to the British Museum ...

Nowadays, the acrid smoke of Cairo and Heluan factories penetrates the pores of the statue. Eroding stones exhaust motor engines. On a summer night in 1988, a large stone piece broke off from the neck of the Sphinx and crashed down - when it was weighed and horrified - it pulled 350 kilograms. After that, Egyptian scientists and the government sounded the alarm, UNESCO experts got worried.

Near the monument, a camp laboratory with various analyzers and powerful computers was installed. Specialists from Egypt, Germany, the USA, Japan, and France gathered for a kind of consultation. We started work with the fact that ultrasound emitters scanned the damaged head.

Dangerous cracks appeared inside. The opinion of experts was as follows: during the twentieth century the Sphinx was damaged more than in the previous 4,000 years. To save the sculpture need hundreds of millions of dollars.

Having made such a conclusion, the members of the consultation departed. Money could not be obtained. The Egyptians began to restore the statue on their own. Large cracks were repaired, the pedestal was strengthened, the fallen fragments were found and put in place. They demanded that the British immediately return the beard and put it in place in order to strengthen the 900-ton head of the Sphinx. The emergency condition and the beginning of the repair of ancient sculpture caused a new interest of science to the mysteries of the Sphinx. The most interesting research conducted by Japanese scientists. Tokyo archaeologists, led by Professor S. Yoshimura, elucidated the statue of the sphinx and its surroundings with echolocators. And they came to the conclusion - the stones of the sculpture are older than the pyramid blocks. Let's make a reservation, the experts had in mind not the geological age of the rock from which the "lion with a human face" is made, but the age of the sculpture itself, that is, the processing time of the stone.

Then the Tokyo scientists gave the second sensation: the electronic equipment showed a narrow tunnel under the left paw of a stone statue, leading towards the pyramid of Khafre. It starts at a depth of two meters and goes down obliquely. It was still impossible to trace it further, but Professor Yoshimura promised to create a new device, specifically to study this underground passage.

After some time, a team of hydrologists settled at the pedestal of the stone lion. And a new sensation: on the basis of the statue traces of erosion from a large flow of water were found. As soon as this message was published in the Washington Herald on the study of nature with new

methods, a message appeared in the press; as if earlier the Nile was wider and flowed around the rock from which the Sphinx had been cut. But hydrologists objected: "Most likely there are not traces of Nile here, since a mighty stream of water went from north to south, but ... the biblical flood!" After analyzes and consultations with geophysicists, the probable date of the event was named - 8,000 years BC.

The British, repeating the analysis, pushed this date back to 12,000 years deep into the centuries, and noted that traces of water erosion also fall on the treated part of the rock on which the Sphinx rests. So he was standing there before the flood?

French archaeologists have noticed: the dating of the Egyptian flood coincides with the date of the death of the legendary Atlantis of Plato...

And so, the mystery of the origin of the Sphinx goes back to the antediluvian history. What do we know about those times? Almost nothing. And the myths and legends that have survived to our days leave a lot of room for imagination. But with a high degree of confidence it can be assumed that in the depth of ages a highly developed civilization already existed on our Earth. And its representatives, naturally, could foresee the impending catastrophe and try to preserve their knowledge for posterity.

From this point of view, curious legends about the "cosmic" origin of the ancient Egyptian state, this appeared as if suddenly and initially was in terms of civilization much higher than all the peoples surrounding the Nile Valley. According to these legends, gods arrived in the Nile Valley on a fireball. The king of these gods by the name of He was the "leader of the ship of the Sun." This is stated in the hieroglyphic texts carved on the stone, which have survived to the present day without damage. These gods, and there were nine of them, began to teach the

aborigines the basics of medicine, agriculture, mathematics and astronomy. The legends say that they built a large city with a tall lighthouse building in the center, a special facility to measure the Nile spills, painted a new calendar on the temple wall ... All this, frankly, is not similar to the behavior of the gods, rather so will the missionaries by fate in the wild lands. Such contradictions gave rise to a lot of hypotheses that the gods of the Egyptian pantheon are either aliens from space or representatives of Atlantis who survived the flood.

They brought with them amazing knowledge - the Egyptian priests quickly mastered astronomy and could calculate the day and minute of the upcoming eclipse of the sun. Archaeologists have discovered analogs of modern galvanic batteries. It seems that the gods knew about electricity. Medicine has risen to a high level - there is a record of a conversation with a Memphis priest, who claimed that at the time of Thoth (he was also called the god of longevity and the lord of life), people did not know diseases and the burden of old age.

Centuries passed, the knowledge brought by the gods began to be forgotten. If the ancient Egyptians knew that the Earth was round and revolves around the Sun, then their descendants already considered it flat as a pancake, and the sun was perceived as a golden disk pinned to the crystal sky of the sky. The secrets of the production of unique bronze and nickel alloys produced by the ancients were lost. I also forgot the recipe for the "elixir of immortality" that God He and his son Hermes Trismegist knew. This legendary person, by the way...

Could missionary gods foresee that people would not be able to keep the knowledge and skills they were given? Probably yes. So they had to take care that at least something survived, to insure, to make somewhere a cache with "reference books" and textbooks. And if the figure of the Sphinx has indeed been preserved since the antediluvian times, then it is really hard to think of a better place for a cache.

An ancient proverb says: "When the Sphinx speaks, life on Earth will come down from its usual circle." Perhaps this is a hint at the treasury of knowledge, which can really change the lives of the people who discovered it. But it is also possible that this knowledge is nothing more than a historical value for us, that our civilization has already passed the way of the Atlantes, and even far ahead of them. There is, however, another option that there is nothing in the womb of the Sphinx but a cold stone. Where is the truth? Sphinx is silent.

Countess Bathory's bloody rejuvenating baths

Most contemporaries believe that serial killers and maniacs are the “invention” of the 20th century. But this is far from the case. The bloody serial killer, according to the Guinness Book of Records, is the medieval Countess Elizabeth Bathory.

This maniac, who received the nickname Bloody Countess, killed about 650 girls, in whose blood she loved to take a bath. In this way, the countess expected to preserve eternal youth ...

Sadist since childhood

Elizabeth (Elizabeth, Erzhebet) Batory, born August 7, 1560, came from a very high-born branch of the Hungarian nobility. Her uncle Stefan Batory was king of Poland, grandfather Istvan IV was Palatine of Hungary. Palatine - the highest public office after the king in the Kingdom of Hungary (until 1853). Sometimes referred to as the viceroy of Hungary. Palatine combined the functions of the prime minister and the supreme judge of the kingdom.

Elizabeth was betrothed at the age of 11 with the eminent nobleman

Ferenc Nadashdi. In 15 years, married him. Almost immediately after the wedding, she moved to the Chakhtitsky (Cheiteck) castle in the Slovak Small Carpathians.

According to one of the legends, the Bloody Countess has loved blood and sadism since childhood. According to another version of the cruelty of Elizabeth taught her husband. Which the Turks called "Black Bey", for extreme cruelty to prisoners. But the fact that Bathory had kinship with the Basarabov-Draculesti family, to which the notorious Count Dracula belonged, is an absolute fact.

Be that as it may, the Bloody Countess did not immediately begin to kill. According to the official version, she committed the first murder in 1585. But the peak of crime came at a later time. In 1604, the husband, to whom she had given birth to five children, laid down his head in the next battle with the Turks.

At that time, Elizabeth was already 44 years old, but according to the testimony of contemporaries that reached us, she still looked beautiful. However, the Countess herself, looking every day in the mirror, saw more and more signs of an approaching old age.

Virgin blood

According to the most persistent version, Batory turned to a certain witch named Darvulya. It was the one that advised the Countess to bathe in the blood of virgins in order to preserve beauty and youth. But it was required to kill with the observance of certain rites. One of the main conditions was that it was required to kill and wash in blood at Christmas.

The sorceress stated that it was during this period from Christmas to Epiphany (12 days between Christmas and Epiphany) that

otherworldly forces were ready to fulfill certain desires for mortals. Including return youth. And it was necessary to torture the victims to a sophisticated manner so that their suffering attracted the attention of those who can saturate the blood of the girls with a rejuvenating force.

The most interesting thing is that Bathory, having washed with fresh blood, really felt younger, and wrinkles were smoothed on her face. It is quite possible that this was only self-hypnosis, but the Countess finally believed in the power of the ritual told by the witch.

Beginning in the winter of 1604, young peasant women began to disappear in the district. Moreover, some who at the time of the disappearance were no longer virgins, sometimes returned home. Telling parents that they were kidnapped by the servants of the Countess of Batory, and the castle was subjected to sophisticated torture and violence, in which the mistress of the castle took part.

But in those days it was more expensive to complain about such noble nobles. All the more peasants. What is there to talk about, even if the local bishop, who was well aware of the fact that the countess was fascinated with witchcraft, did not dare to report this to the Inquisition. After all, complaints in the end could reach the close relatives of the countess, who owned almost all the lands in the country and were the supreme judges.

And since in those times church hierarchs often combined secular and spiritual positions (which is generally forbidden in almost all Christian denominations), the clergyman had no guarantees that he would not fall on any brother of the Bloody Countess. So he was silent, forcing his “subordinates” to be silent.

Countess Error

At first, the disappearance of young girls occurred only in winter. But gradually, the Bathory herd was scarce only in the winter months and she began to order girls to be delivered to her at any time of the year. Later, local residents told that they saw dogs dragging parts of human bodies from the vicinity of the castle.

Disfigured and bloodless bodies were also found on the banks of the river near the castle. It was the bloodlessness of the bodies that served as a reason to declare Elizabeth Bathory a vampire. But the countess did not drink blood. She bathed in it.

Initially, it looked like this: the servants and maids of the countess looked after the young girls around, kidnapped and delivered them to the castle. There, the Countess, after staring at the victims, ordered to cut their necks and main arteries.

The blood flowed into the gas, from which Bathory washed out his face and some parts of his body. But how much to get blood from one person? Liter four, rarely five. So, two or three girls at a time began to deliver to the countess for one session of “young therapy”.

But their total blood was still not enough. And Elizaveta Batori has already entered the taste. She no longer thought much about rejuvenation, she liked the process of depriving girls of life itself. The Countess invented a new way to extract blood. According to one of the legends, this method was suggested to her by the dwarf hunchback Janos Uyvari, nicknamed Fitsko.

During his life he was so often mocked for his deformity that he hated the entire human race. And I read a lot about various torture drugs, presenting my offenders in them. The hunchback told the Countess about the special torture vessel. ” Whoever told Batory this method of torture and blood extraction, but she implemented it.

"Iron Maiden"

Somewhere in distant lands, Elizabeth ordered an iron maiden. So called a special device for torture.

Iron structure in the form of a human body, hollow inside and consisting of two drop-down halves. A person is placed inside, and then it is closed with the second half, from inside which are attached sharp spikes, tormenting the body of the victim.

Bathory improved the design. In her "iron maiden" thorns inflicted not superficial wounds, but pierced the body almost through. The mechanism itself was located above the bathroom, into which the blood flowed. When thirty liters of blood were collected in the bath (that is, from at least six girls killed), Bathory undressed and plunged into this bath.

But for some reason, these baths did not save from aging. The Countess again summoned the witch Darvul to herself and demanded an explanation. The witch said that Batory herself was to blame for the fact that bathing in blood does not bring the desired result. After all, she was told that killing and swimming should be only at Christmas. And the countess violated this condition.

However, seeing that Batori was about to break loose and kill the witch herself, Dervulja hurried to get out. She said that everything can be fixed, but the blood of commoners is not suitable for this, we need noble virgins.

Took "red-handed"

Quite a few impoverished noblemen lived in the district, and the Bloody Countess on the eve of Christmas in 1609 invited the

noblewomen to come to her castle for service. For the impoverished childbirth it was a chance, and young noblewomen began to arrive at axhhtiky castle. Who soon became acquainted with the "iron woman". And this was the main mistake of Elizabeth Bathory.

When not only commoners, but noblewomen began to disappear in the Chakhtitsky castle, the official authorities could not close their eyes to rumors. Investigative measures were taken and it was found that the peak of the disappearances of girls in the vicinity of the Chakhtitsky castle falls on the Christmas holidays.

On December 29, 1610, royal Palatin György Thurzo rode up to the castle, accompanied by a pair of dozens of patrons. Without engaging in special conversations with servants, he drove into the courtyard and immediately rushed into the basement. Where he found Elizabeth Batori for mockery of another victim.

But despite the fact that the Bloody Countess was "caught up" with cash, Elizaveta Batori never appeared before the court. She was simply locked in the castle "where she died in 1614. Three of her maidservants, whose participation in the abductions of girls and the bloody orgies had been proven, were burned at the stake. Fitsko's hunchback was beheaded.

But until now, local residents claim that on the eve of Christmas and during this holiday, very strange and terrible things are happening in the vicinity of Чahtitsky castle, which has become a tourist attraction.

It is possible that these rumors serve only to attract tourists. But it is quite possible that not only ... Because in the legends and myths of almost all nations it is stated that where the line between reality and the otherworld has ever thinned, there is always the danger of facing the unexplainable.

Culture Slavs

The culture of the Slavs was formed on the basis of three natural factors, including forest, river and steppe. Many people's claimed the role of masters of the Great Russian steppe, but only the ancient Rus, managed not only to gain a foothold, but over time create one of the most powerful of the ancient states that had ever existed. On its basis, a special type of Slavic culture has emerged - the Eurasian one, about which experts continue to dispute about the essence, features and purpose.

According to most historians, the ancestral home of the Slavs in the heyday of the Bronze Age (the middle of the 2nd millennium BC) was Central and Eastern Europe. The history of the Eastern Slavs and the Russian ethnos as an independent branch of the Slavs begins in the I millennium BC. Oe., when the Slavic tribes of the Middle Poddniprovya fight for their independence, build the first fortresses, for the first time confronting the hostile Cimmerian steppe cavalry and leaving the battles with honor. By this time, scientists include the creation of one of the primary forms of Slavic culture - the heroic epic.

By the time the Scythians came to the South Russian steppes (VII century BC. E.), The Slavs had a great historical path, which was reflected in both archaeological materials and the detailed mythology of the Slavs. The social order of the Middle Dnieper Slavs was still fifteen hundred years before Kievan Rus was formed on the threshold of statehood. This is indicated by the references by Herodotus of the Slavic "kings", the equestrian features of the buried soldiers, the huge "royal" barrows in the Kiev region and the imported luxury of the Slavic nobility.

At the end of the 5th - the middle of the 6th century, the great

migration of the Slavs to the south, beyond the Danube, to the Balkan Peninsula began, when the Slavic forces conquered and settled almost half of the Byzantine Empire. The movement of Slavs, grandiose in scale, redrew the entire ethnic and political map of early medieval Europe. The territory mastered by the Slavs was the so-called “gate of nations” - the open space between the Ural Mountains and the Caspian Sea - through which waves of nomadic peoples poured into the southern Russian steppes. The period from the VIII to the end of the XVII century - the most troubled in the history of our country. At this time, the Russian lands were subjected to devastating raids.

The “Gates of the Peoples”, the South Russian steppe, attracted many to itself. In the I millennium BC. e. here arose the most ancient Bospor and Scythian states. In the VII — VI centuries BC the shores of the Mediterranean, Black and Azov seas were colonized by the ancient Greeks. In the II century BC the southern Russian steppes were occupied by Iranian Sarmatian tribes, then Alans. In the III — II centuries BC Germanic tribes invaded these territories, forming a large kingdom from the Danube to the Don. In 375 AD e. ready pushed aside the Mongol hordes of the Huns, occupying the space between the Volga and the Danube with their nomads.

The Huns in the 6th century were replaced by the new Mongolian Avar tribe in the southern Russian steppes, whose domination was also short-lived. He was replaced in the VII — VIII centuries by the new Asian hordes — the Ugrians (Hungarians), the Bulgarians, and the Khazars. The Ugra, having stayed for a short time, passed into the valley of the Danube, where they founded their national state. The Khazars formed in the VIII — IX centuries extensive state (kaganat).

Thus, many nations claimed the role of masters of the Great Russian steppe, but only the ancient Rus, who repelled numerous forays that outnumbered their enemies, managed not only to gain a foothold, but

eventually create one of the most powerful ancient states ever to exist. On its basis, a new, special civilizational type — the Eurasian type — was actively formed, the essence of which is cultural, and the mission of which is still being discussed by experts.

We know very little about the culture of the Slavs of that period. The remaining monuments characterize the way of life of our ancestors as follows. Before the formation of the state, the life of the Slavs was organized according to the laws of patriarchal and clan life. All questions in the community were governed by a council of elders. The typical form of Slavic settlements was small villages - in one, two, three courtyards. Several villages united in alliances ("Vervi"). Religious beliefs of the ancient Slavs represented, on the one hand, the worship of natural phenomena, on the other - the cult of ancestors. They had neither temples, nor a special class of priests, although there were magicians, magicians, who were worshiped by the servants of the gods and interpreters of their will.

The main Slavic gods were as follows: Dazh-god (for other tribes — Chora) was the sun god; Perun - the god of thunder and lightning; Stribog was the god of the wind; Velez was a patron of herding; the sky was sometimes called Svarog (and therefore Dazhd-god was “Svarozhich”, that is, the son of heaven); Mother Earth, too, was worshiped as a kind of deity. Nature seemed animate or inhabited by a multitude of small spirits: the goblins lived in the forests; the wateries lived in the rivers. The souls of the dead were presented as mermaids dangerous for an unwary person.

Places of the pagan cult in Russia were sanctuaries (temples), where prayers and sacrifices took place. The sanctuaries were rounded or complex in shape, earthen and wooden structures on elevated places or embankments, surrounded by ramparts or moats. In the center of the temple there were stone or wooden Slavic idols, around which sacrificial

fires were burned. Fruits, animals, and birds were brought to the gods; human sacrifices were also known.

Belief in the afterlife, at the time when the Slavic funeral rite was being performed, forced together with the deceased to put in the grave everything that could be useful to him, including sacrificial food. At the funeral of people belonging to the social elite, their concubines were burned.

The Slavs had an original writing system, the so-called nodal script. Its signs were not recorded, but were transmitted using knots tied on threads, which were wrapped in books — balls. In ancient times, knotty writing was common among many nations. Ancient Incas and Iroquois, the ancient Chinese, used the nodal letter. It existed among the Finns, Ugrians and Karelians. On many objects raised from the burials of pagan time, asymmetrical images of knots of complex configuration, resembling the hieroglyphic writing of Eastern peoples, are viewed.

The decisive role in the life of the Slavs was played by three factors - forest, river and steppe. The forest went to construction and served as fuel, provided the Slavs with material for farming, creating home furnishings, dishes, weaving bast shoes. The main branches of the national economy were concentrated in the forest - ancient crafts: our ancestors smoked tar, drove tar, engaged in hunting and forest beekeeping. The forest served as the most reliable shelter from enemies, it replaced the Russian mountains and castles.

The state of the Slavs itself was strengthened not in the steppes, where it was constantly smashed by steppe inhabitants, but in the far North, under the cover of dense forests. Forest motifs are imbued with folklore, religion and morality of the Russian people. Leshy, watermen, women-yagis, just as saints and hermits lived in forests: “In difficult times of the Tatar yoke, in an era of political oppression from the outside

and moral decline within society, pious people who sought to escape from worldly temptations, vanity and sins, in the forest "desert", they built themselves cells and sketes there and lived for many years in solitude and silence; later they were joined by other zealots of the "wilderness" and organized monasteries, which then became centers and strongholds of Russian colonization.

The historical significance of the Russian rivers was not limited to their role as transport highways, although Russian colonization along the rivers proceeded and trade with other countries was carried out. But along the banks of the rivers, cities, villages, small villages, fishing and hunting huts were built, the rivers fed the Slavs with their reserves, and the Russian people sang them in songs. Volga - Mother became a symbol of Russia.

The third element of Russian nature - the steppe, wide, detached and majestic - for long centuries was for the Russian people not only a symbol of freedom (it hid fugitive peasants), but also an eternal threat, a source of invasions and ruin.

Mythology Slavs

The mythology of the Slavs in Russia in many respects, adhered to the main mythological representations of the ancient Slavs (Proto-Slavs) of the time of their unity (up to the end of the 1st millennium AD). As the Slavs settled from the Proto-Slavonic territory (between the Vistula and the Dnieper) across Central and Eastern Europe, from the Elbe to the Dnieper and from the southern shores of the Baltic Sea to the north of the Balkan Peninsula, the mythology of the Slavs was differentiated and the local variants, which had long preserved the main characteristics of pan-Slavic mythology, differentiated.

The mythology of the Slavs includes both a complex set of

metaphysical ideas about birth and the structure of the world, as well as information about ancient gods playing an important role both in nature and in the livelihoods of people.

Actually the authentic Slavic mythological texts have not been preserved: the religious and mythological integrity of paganism was destroyed during the period of the Christianization of Slavic peoples. The modern compilation of a holistic picture of the mythological representations of the Slavs is possible only on the basis of the reconstruction of the main elements of mythology on the basis of secondary written and material sources.

So, in particular, one of the important sources of information on the mythology of the Slavs is medieval historical chronicles written by foreign observers in German or Latin languages and Slavic authors (the mythology of Polish and Czech tribes). Valuable information is contained in the writings of Byzantine writers (starting with Procopius, VI.) And geographical descriptions of medieval Arab and European authors.

Also, researchers find out valuable information about the mythology of the Slavs from Christian teachings against paganism; about the “lower” mythology (beliefs about various spirits) - from folklore (fairy tales, rituals, conspiracies); A lot of information is obtained thanks to the archaeological excavations of pagan prayers, also found burials and treasures of women's and men's jewelry with pagan symbolism. In addition, comparisons with the ancient religion of neighboring peoples, as well as with epic tales, for example, Russian epics, help in restoring the authentic mythological ideas of the Slavs.

Beliefs of the Slavs

The beliefs of the Slavs of Ancient Russia were greatly influenced

by both totemism and animism. In the beliefs of the ancient Slavs, two worlds lived at the same time interconnected - the real, human world and another world inhabited by deities (good and evil), and also by the ancestral souls. On the one hand, the other world was perceived as very distant and difficult to reach (either under the ground or in the sky). On the other hand, the other world was thought of as close, often visited by man, as if it were a familiar forest, swamp or mountains. The master of a different world among the ancient Slavs was a deity - the progenitor.

In the distant past, when the main occupation of the Slavs was hunting, they believed that their ancestors were wild animals. The Slavs considered them powerful deities to be worshiped. Each tribe had its own sacred animal (totem). Several tribes considered their ancestor Wolf and worshiped him as a deity. During the winter solstice, all the men of these tribes wore wolfs, which symbolized the transformation into wolves. This meant communication with animal ancestors, who were asked for strength and wisdom. The wolf was considered a powerful protector of the tribe, a devourer of evil spirits. A pagan priest who performed protective rituals also dressed in animal skin.

Image of the world

The image of the world, according to the mythology of the ancient Slavs, contains a three-part picture. The earth (the middle world) seemed to be resting on the three heads of the Lord of the underworld, among the waters of the ocean. An inextinguishable fire is burning in the bowels of the earth, in the lower world. The heavens (Upper World) extend over the earth in several vaults. On each tier of the heavens there are different lights and incarnations of the elements. The abode of the highest forces in the image of the world of the ancient Slavs - the ever-shining "seventh" sky.

According to the views of the Slavs, the earth was surrounded by

the oceans - Kiyan, in the middle of which lies the "navel of the earth" - the sacred stone Alatyr. Most often it is described that it lies at the roots of the sacred World Tree - the oak tree on the island of Buyan, in the center of the whole universe. The world tree (sometimes - the Holy Mountains) was considered by the ancient Slavs as a peculiar axis that holds the world together. In the branches of the tree live the Sun, the Month and the stars, at its roots - the Serpent. Sometimes the tree is called Iri, that is, the tree of the blessed country of Ir. She lay in the south, where the birds' winter and Spring lives. In the most ancient ideas of the Slavs about the world, blessed Ir was placed at the bottom of the sea. It was there that higher powers decided the fate of people.

As for the other sides of the world, in the east was the abode of the gods, the sacred country, and in the north-west, beyond the sea, the land of winter and death. Behind the river that delineates the border of the world of people (in ancient times, the ancestors of the Slavs were such rivers as the Don and the Danube), lies another world, the ancestral home of the people and the abode of the souls of the dead ancestors. There is a road through the edge of winter and death, which is destined to be overcome after death to every person. He goes through impassable mountains and turbulent rivers to the final resting place. And there, according to the ideas of the Slavs, those who violated moral laws during life and did not perform proper rituals were punished after death...

Animal cult

The owner of the pagan forest was the Bear - the most powerful beast. He was considered the protector from all evil and the patron of fertility: with the spring awakening of a bear, the ancient Slavs associated the onset of spring. Up to the XIX century in some areas, the tradition to keep a bear's paw in the house as a talisman ward, which was supposed to protect its owner from diseases, witchcraft and all sorts of misfortunes, was maintained. Slavs believed that the bear was endowed

with great wisdom, almost omniscience: the name of the beast was sworn, and the hunter who broke the oath was doomed to death in the forest.

The true name of this beast-deity was so sacred that it was not pronounced out loud and therefore did not reach us. The bear is the nickname of the beast, meaning "honey badger"; in the word “lair”, the more ancient root, “ber,” ie, “brown,” (den, den of berra), is preserved. For a long time, the bear was honored as a sacred beast, and even much later, the hunters still did not dare to pronounce the word “bear”, but they called him Mikhail Potapich, Bruin, or just Mishka.

Of the herbivores in the hunting epoch, the most venerated is the Deer (Elk) - the oldest Slavic goddess of fertility, sky and sunlight. In contrast to the present deer, the goddess was thought to be horned; her horns were a symbol of the sun's rays. Therefore, the antlers were considered a powerful amulet from any night scum and were attached either over the entrance to the hut, or inside the dwelling. By the name of the horns - "plow" - deer and moose are often called prey. Russian women were likened to goddesses, wearing a headdress with horns made of cloth — a kichka. The echoes of the myths about the sky Elks are the folk names of the constellations of the Big and Little Bear - Elk and Elk.

Among domestic animals, Slavs revered the Horse more than others, because the ancestors of most of the peoples of Eurasia were once nomadic, and in the guise of a golden horse running through the sky, they thought the sun. Later, the myth of the sun god, riding across the sky in a chariot, appeared. The image of the Sun-horse is preserved in the decoration of the Russian izba, topped with a ridge - the image of one or two horse heads at the junction of two roofs in combination with the sun sign. An amulet with a horse head or just a horseshoe, like other solar symbols, was considered a powerful amulet...

Worship of gods and spirits

Over time, totem deities have been replaced by gods and spirits with a human appearance. For example, the devil, considered the master of the forest, resembled a man. It was believed that he could take a stray traveler out of the forest, but, if he were angry, he could, on the contrary, lead a person into a thicket and destroy it. With the adoption of Christianity, the devil, like other spirits of nature, began to be perceived as hostile.

The deities of moisture and fertility among the Slavs were Beregin, pouring dew from the magical horns onto the fields. They were talked about as if they were semi-semi-half-birds arriving from heaven, then like the mistresses of wells and streams. Later, the beregines transformed into mermaids. According to popular belief, in the short summer nights, the mermaids emerge from their underwater shelters, swing on the branches, and if they meet a man, they can tickle to death or carry them to the bottom of the lake.

Riddle of Easter Island

Easter Island, occupying 117 square meters. km - one of the most secluded habitats: it is located in the Pacific Ocean at a distance of more than 3,700 km. from the nearest continent (South America) and 2,600 km from the nearest inhabited island (Pitcairn).

Generally in the history of Easter Island were many secrets. Its pioneer, Captain Juan Fernandez, fearing competitors, decided to keep his discovery made in 1578 in secret, and after a while he accidentally died under mysterious circumstances. Although whether what the Spaniard found, Easter Island, was still unclear.

After 144 years, in 1722, the Dutch Admiral Jacob Roggeven came across Easter Island, and this event occurred on the day of the Christian Easter. So, by chance, the island of Te Pito about Te Henua, which in translation from the local dialect means World Center, turned into Easter Island.

Interestingly, Admiral Roggeven with his squadron did not just sail in the area, he tried in vain to find the elusive land of Davis, an English pirate, which, according to his descriptions, was discovered 35 years before the Dutch expedition. True, no one except Davis and his team, the newly discovered archipelago has ever seen again.

The mild climate of Easter Island and its volcanic origin would have made it a paradise, far from the problems that plagued the rest of the world, but Roggeven's first impression of the island's view was like a desolate area covered with dried grass and scorched vegetation. There was no tree, no bushes.

Modern botanists have found on the island only 47 species of higher plants characteristic of this area; mostly grass, sedge and ferns. The list also includes two types of dwarf trees and two types of shrubs. With such vegetation, the inhabitants of the island did not have any fuel for warming in the cold, damp and windy winter. Of the domestic animals were only chickens; there were no bats, birds, snakes or lizards. There were only insects. Total on the island lived about 2,000 people.

Now about three thousand people live on the island. Of these, only 150 people - purebred Rapanuytsy, the rest - the Chileans and mestizos. Although again it is not entirely clear who exactly can be considered purebred. After all, the first Europeans who landed on the island were surprised to find that the inhabitants of Rapanui — the Polynesian name of the island — are ethnically heterogeneous. Admiral Roggeven, who was familiar to us, wrote that white, dark, brown and even reddish

people lived on the land that he discovered. Their language was Polynesian, referring to a dialect isolated from around 400 AD. e., and characteristic of the Marquesas and Hawaiian Islands.

Absolutely inexplicable seemed about 200 giant stone sculptures - "Moai", located on massive pedestals along the coast of the island with poor vegetation, far from the quarries. Most of the statues were located on massive pedestals. At least 700 more sculptures, in varying degrees of readiness, were left in quarries or on ancient roads linking the quarries with the coast. The impression was that the sculptors suddenly left their tools and stopped working…

Far masters cut down "moai" on the slopes of the volcano Rano-Roraku, located in the eastern part of the island, from the soft volcanic tuff. Then the finished statues were lowered down the slope and placed around the perimeter of the island, at a distance of more than 10 km. The height of most idols is from five to seven meters, but later statues reached 10 and 12 meters. Tuff, or, as it is also called, pumice, from which they are made, resembles a sponge in structure and easily crumbles even with a slight impact on it. so the average weight of the "moai" does not exceed 5 tons. Stone ahu - platform pedestals: they reached 150 m in length and 3 m in height, and consisted of pieces weighing up to 10 tons.

At one time, Admiral Roggeven, recalling his journey to the island, argued that the aborigines made fires before the idols of the “Moai” and squatted beside them, bowing their heads. After that, they folded their arms and swung them up and down. Of course, this observation is not able to explain who the idols actually were for the islanders.

Roggeven and his companions could not understand how, without using thick wooden rollers and strong ropes, it was possible to move and set such blocks. The islanders had no wheels, no plots, and no other

source of energy besides their own muscles. Ancient legends say that the statues walked on their own. There is no point in asking the question how it actually happened, because there is still no documentary evidence. There are many hypotheses about the movement of "moai", some are even confirmed by experiments, but all this proves only one thing - it was possible in principle. And the inhabitants of the island moved the statues and none other. That's what they did it for? Here discrepancies begin.

It is also surprising that in 1770 the statues were still standing, James Cook, who visited the island in 1774, mentioned the lying statues; no one had noticed anything like this before him. The last time the standing idols saw in 1830. Then the French squadron entered the island. Since then, the original, that is, established by the inhabitants of the island, no one else has seen the statues. Everything that exists on the island today was restored in the 20th century. The last restoration of the fifteen moai, located between the volcano Rano-Roraku and the Poike peninsula, occurred relatively recently - from 1992 to 1995. Moreover, the Japanese were engaged in restoration work.

In the second half of the XIX century, the cult of the human bird also died. This strange, unique for all of Polynesia, the ceremony was dedicated to Makemake - the supreme deity of the islanders. The chosen one became his earthly incarnation. And, interestingly, the elections were held regularly, once a year. At the same time the most active part in them was taken by servants or warriors. It was up to them whether their master, the head of the family clan, the Tangata mana, or the man-bird would become. It is to this rite that the main cult center, the rocky settlement of Orongo on the largest volcano, Rano-Kao, on the western tip of the island owes its appearance. Although, perhaps, Orongo existed long before the emergence of the Tangata-mana cult. The legends say that the heir to the legendary Hotu Matua, the first leader who arrived on the island, was born here. In turn, his descendants, through hundreds of

years, themselves gave the signal to start the annual competition.

In the spring, messengers of the god Makemake — black sea swallows — flew to the small islands of Motu-Khao-Khao, Motu-Iti and Motu-Nui, located near the coast. The warrior, who first found the first egg of these birds and delivered it by swimming to his master, received seven beautiful women as a reward. Well, the owner became the leader, or rather, the man-bird, receiving universal respect, honor and privilege. The last ceremony Tangata-mana took place in the 60s of the XIX century. After the catastrophic pirate raid of the Peruvians of 1862, when the pirates took the entire male population of the island into slavery, there was no one to choose a man-bird.

Why did the aborigines of Easter Island carve out moai statues in their quarries? Why did they stop this occupation? The society that created the statues had to differ significantly from the 2000 people Roggeven saw. It should have been well organized. What happened to him?

For more than two and a half centuries, the mystery of Easter Island remained unsolved. Most theories about the history and development of Easter Island are based on oral traditions. This happens because no one has yet been able to understand what is written in the written sources - the famous tablets of “ko how motu mongorongo”, which translates roughly means - the manuscript for the recitation. Most of them were destroyed by Christian missionaries, but those that survived could probably shed light on the history of this mysterious island. And although the academic world was more than once agitated by reports that the ancient writings were finally deciphered, with careful verification, all this turned out to be not a very accurate interpretation of oral facts and tales.

A few years ago, paleontologist David Stadman and several other

researchers carried out the first systematic study of Easter Island in order to find out what its flora and fauna had previously been. As a result, data appeared for a new, surprising and instructive interpretation of the history of its settlers.

Easter Island was inhabited around 400 AD e. The islanders grew bananas, taro, sweet potatoes, sugarcane, and mulberry. In addition to chickens, there were also rats on the island who arrived with the first settlers.

The period of production of the statues refers to 1200-1500. The number of residents at that time ranged from 7,000 to 20,000 people. A few hundred people are enough to lift and move the statue, who used ropes and rollers from trees that were available at that time in sufficient quantity.

The painstaking work of archaeologists and paleontologists showed that approximately 30,000 years before the arrival of people and in the first years of their stay, the island was not at all as deserted as it is now. A subtropical forest of trees and low forest towered above shrubs, grasses, ferns and sod. Wood daisies, hawau trees from which ropes can be made, and toromiro, which is suitable as fuel, grew in the forest. There were also varieties of palm trees, which are now not on the island, but before there were so many of them, that the base of the trees was tightly covered with their pollen. They are related to the Chilean palm tree, which grows up to 32 m and a diameter of 2 m. High, without branches, the trunks were the ideal material for ice rinks and canoes. They also gave edible nuts and juice, from which Chileans make sugar, syrup, honey and wine.

Relatively cold coastal waters provided fishing in only a few places. The main marine prey were dolphins and seals. For hunting they went out into the open sea and used harpoons. Before the arrival of

people, the island was an ideal place for birds, since they had no enemies here. Albatros, gannets, frigates, silly birds, parrots and other birds made nests here - only 25 species. It was probably the richest breeding place in the entire Pacific.

Around the 800s began the destruction of forests. Increasingly, layers of charcoal from forest fires began to meet, wood pollen became less and pollen from grass that replaced the forest became more and more common. Not later than 1400, palm trees disappeared completely, and not only as a result of logging, but also because of the ubiquitous rats that prevented them from recovering: a dozen remaining remains of nuts that remained in the caves had signs of being bitten by rats. Such nuts could not germinate. Howhau trees did not disappear completely, but they were no longer enough for making ropes.

In the 15th century, not only palm trees, but the entire forest disappeared. It was destroyed by people who cleared areas for gardens, cut down trees to build canoes, for making skating rinks for sculptures, for heating. Rats ate the seeds. It is likely that the birds died out due to contamination of flowers and a decrease in fruit yield. What happened is the same everywhere in the world where the forest is destroyed: most of the inhabitants of the forest disappear. All kinds of local birds and animals disappeared on the island. The whole coastal fish was also caught. In the food went small snails. From the diet of people to the 15th century. the dolphins disappeared: there was nothing to go to the sea, and the harpoons had nothing to do. It came to cannibalism.

The paradise, which opened to the first settlers, 1600 years later became virtually lifeless. Fertile soil, abundance of food, a lot of building materials, sufficient living space, all the possibilities for a comfortable existence were destroyed. By the time Heyerdal visited the island, there was a single toromiro tree on the island; now it's gone.

It all began with the fact that a few centuries after arriving on the island, people began, like their Polynesian ancestors, to install stone idols on the platforms. Over time, the statues grew larger; their heads began to adorn red 10-ton crowns; the spiral of competition unwound; rival clans tried to outdo each other, demonstrating health and power like the Egyptians who built their giant pyramids. On the island, as in modern America, there was a complex political system of the distribution of available resources and the integration of the economy in various fields.

Constantly growing populations plagued forests faster than they could recover; more and more places were occupied by vegetable gardens; the soil devoid of forests, springs and streams dried up; the trees that were spent on transporting and raising the statues, as well as the construction of canoes and dwellings, were not enough even for cooking. As the destruction of birds and animals, hunger began. The fertility of arable land decreased due to wind and rain erosion. Drought began. Intensive breeding of chickens and cannibalism did not solve the problems with food. The statues prepared for moving with sunken cheeks and visible ribs are evidence of the famine that has begun.

With a shortage of food, the islanders could no longer contain the leaders, the bureaucracy and the shamans who controlled the society. The surviving islanders told the first Europeans who visited them how chaos had replaced the centralized system, and the militant class defeated the hereditary leaders. Images of spears and daggers made by the warring parties in the 1600s and 1700s appeared on the stones; they are now scattered throughout Easter Island. By 1700, the population ranged from a quarter to one tenth of its previous number. People moved to the caves to hide from their enemies. Around 1770, the opposing clans began to overturn the statues of each other and demolish their heads. The last statue was overturned and desecrated in 1864.

As soon as the picture of the decline of Easter Island civilization

appeared before the researchers, they asked themselves: “Why did they not look back, did not realize what was happening, did not stop until it was too late?” What were they thinking, cutting down the last palm tree?

Most likely, the disaster did not occur suddenly, but stretched out over several decades. Changes in nature for one generation were not noticeable. Only the old people, remembering the years of their childhood, could realize what was happening and understand the threat posed by the destruction of forests, but the ruling class and stone cutters, fearing to lose their privileges and work, were treated as warnings in exactly the same way as today's loggers in the north-western United States: "Work is more important than forest!"

Trees gradually became smaller, thinner and less significant. Once, the last fruiting palm tree was cut, and young shoots were destroyed along with the remnants of shrubs and underbrush. No one noticed the death of the last young palm.

Damned Florentine Diamond

When the Bavarian Princess Elizabeth went from Munich to Vienna to get married with the young emperor Franz Joseph, nothing darkened the joy of meeting with her future husband. Is that somewhat disturbed by his recent story about the family diamond "Florentine", which, according to legend, brings misfortune.

True, Franz Joseph immediately assured the bride that the gem could not destroy their marital happiness. The emperor was well versed in the value of diamonds, but, as it turned out, he was not even aware of their sinister power.

GUARDS TROPHY

But the Swiss guard, who on January 5, 1477, happened to be next to the Burgundian duke Karl the Brave, killed in the battle of Nancy, did not know the real price of precious stones. One of them he found in the deceased grandee. The guardsman did not lose his head and grabbed a weighty transparent light yellow stone with a greenish tint as a trophy.

The soldier, of course, heard about diamonds and even saw them on noble ladies, but then he was embarrassed by an unusual color. And the impressive size does not fit the diamond! Once at home in Bern, the hapless guardsman immediately sold the stone to one of the local jewelers for just one florin and was quite pleased. But, of course, the buyer was the real lucky person, who was suddenly surprised by such wealth - a diamond weighing 137.45 carats (27.49 grams).

The Bernese jeweler immediately not only estimated the fabulous cost of the acquisition, but also recognized the hand of an experienced cutter. As it turned out later, it was none other than the famous Flemish master Louis van Bercken. Only he could turn a unique diamond into a sparkling diamond in the shape of a briolet with nine chains of faces.

It means that such an expensive thing should belong to a very rich person. The jeweler made inquiries among his colleagues in the craft - so it is: this is Carl the Bold diamond. It is not difficult to guess that the fellow guardsman removed him from the dead duke after the battle. Bad sign! A unique diamond exported from India has already taken revenge on Karl Smely.

However, the jeweler and so decided to quickly dismiss the jewel from his hands. Of course, not in Bern - he went to Genoa, where, after bargaining, he lost the diamond to one of the wealthy merchants.

ON THE CURVED PATH

Further, the way of the diamond was rather winding, but it was owned by very noble persons. So, from Genoa

he came to Milan to the duke of Lodovico Sforza. To the very connoisseur of science and art, at whose court there was a place of Leonardo da Vinci. But the evil fate that accompanied the gem also showed itself here: in the fall of 1499, the Milan army was defeated in the war with the French.

Wanting to appease the then Pope Julius II and to find an ally in the ongoing war, the duke presented him with a diamond. It would seem that they managed to deceive their fate - Milan was soon beaten off from the French. But in the spring they took revenge in the battle of Novara. Sforza was captured and imprisoned in the castle of Losh, where he died in 1508. It was there that he guessed that the stone purchased from the Genoese was not only a jewel, but also a precursor to a bad fate ...

Wise Pope Julius II did not keep the expensive thing for long — the Vatican sold the diamond to Florence, which was gaining strength. Actually, hence the name "Florentine" (although sometimes it was called "the Grand Duke of Tuscany", and simply "Tuscan"). So the diamond became a family relic of the rulers of Tuscany - the Medici dynasty.

More than one and a half centuries "Florentine" was in the Medici vault. It was there that Jean-Baptiste Tavernier saw him, a traveler and a jeweler, who first described a unique jewel. And it is very professional, because the Frenchman was in his hands most of the diamond trade between India and Europe. Of course, he had heard about this huge light yellow diamond found once in the Vijayanagar Empire.

That memorable visit of Tavernier to Florence took place in 1657 during the reign of Ferdinando II, who invited the visitor to his palace and could not resist not to brag to the connoisseur with family jewels.

Most likely, the jeweler told the duke that the Florentine brings misfortune.

At least in order to buy it cheaper, and then resell it - buyers would be found. Moreover, under Ferdinando II, the power of Florence and the whole of Tuscany obviously died away and the money was needed. However, the duke did not yield the diamond.

Alas, the further course of events made it possible once again to be convinced of the evil purpose of the Florentine. Cases in the duchy began to go from bad to worse.

II, there were problems with the heirs: his eldest son died of syphilis, and the youngest, Giovanni Gastone, was fruitless. In the Medici dynasty did not become the heirs to the throne.

How did the diamond get to the Habsburgs and eventually end up in storage at the Hofburg residence in Vienna? After the death of Giovanni Gastone de Medici in 1737, his power and fortune, including the Florentine diamond, were transferred to Franz I, a native of the old Lorraine clan.

He became the Duke of Tuscany and married the representative of the Habsburg clan Maria Theresa. Soon, she inherited the throne in Vienna and, in fact, ruled the empire, although the title of emperor was worn by her husband Franz I.

TISSES OF EMPRESSES SISSI

And now we will return to the very beginning of our story, to Princess Elizabeth, whom our entourage affectionately called Sissy. Her native aunt was Sophia - the mother of Emperor Franz Joseph, in love with Elizabeth. Marriage between young people was a matter of

decision; it remained to quickly settle the matter with the Pope - to get permission to marry pretty close relatives. Finally it was received.

Alas, the rainbow dreams of a happy marriage with Franz Joseph quickly dispelled. Having become the empress of Austria at the age of 16, Elizabeth essentially ended up in a golden cage. The spouse often went away on business, and they had not seen for weeks. Moreover, it quickly became clear that they were completely different people: it became more and more difficult for a romantic Sissy to find a common language with her husband - a pragmatist and a pedant.

Her mother-in-law also became a headache - the Archduchess Sofia of Bavaria oppressed Sissi in every possible way, trying to put her in second place after herself. Born one after the other two granddaughters, she immediately took away from her mother - grandmother will better educate!

The mother-in-law after the birth of granddaughters showed the daughter-in-law one of the main treasures - the Florentine diamond. Sissy was not eager to see him - the young woman was rather indifferent to the jewels, but she had to give up. She did not share her mother-in-law's delight about the unique diamond - it seemed to her ominous and fraught with some danger.

Then she remembered this visit to the repository more than once - a bad premonition did not deceive her: troubles fell one after another. Two years later, when, with the help of my husband, I managed to get my daughters back under the mother’s wing, a misfortune happened. On a trip to Hungary, where the whole family finally went, both daughters suddenly fell ill. The younger, Gisela, barely recovered, but the older, two-year-old Sophia, died.

The following year, Sisi gave birth to the long-awaited heir, Prince Rudolph. Alas, his grandmother again took over his upbringing.

Soon the Empress Elizabeth suffered a nervous breakdown, she complained about her health. Taking advantage of this opportunity, Sisi went away from her mother-in-law and Hofburg with his “Florentine” - went first to Madeira, and traveled throughout Europe the following years. In Vienna, during the year there were no more than two months.

Meanwhile, family troubles continued. In 1867, in Mexico, Maximilian, brother of Franz Joseph, was proclaimed the emperor there.

The family suffered a loss.

The consolation for Franz Joseph and Sisi was the birth in 1868 of the daughter of Maria Valeria, who was able to defend from an aging mother-in-law. The 30-year-old Empress went with her to Budapest, where she spent most of her time now - in Hungary she liked it more than in the etiquette of Austria. The mother-in-law did not disturb her again either - she had died by then.

It would seem that the long-awaited peace of mind ...

But it was only a calm before the storm. In early 1889, along with his mistress Baroness Maria Vecherya, Rudolph, son and heir to the throne, committed suicide. This is the official version, and according to rumors, it was a political assassination. Such a terrible blow to the end of days knocked the Empress Elizabeth off track.

From her husband, Franz Joseph, Sissy finally drifted away - they mostly met at official events. In addition, she was well aware of his intimate meetings with the wife of a railway official, Anna Nagowski, and later with actress Katharina Shratt.

Then another loss occurred in the family keeping the Florentine diamond: Franz Joseph's younger brother Karl Ludwig died in 1896.

Point in the sad fate of the very Sissi was set September 10, 1898 in Geneva. Once a beautiful and clever, and now a 60-year-old lady, the Empress Elizabeth left at the hotel with her companion Countess of Starry at noon and went to the pier - on this day a walk on the lake was planned.

There was only 100 meters to the pier, and the Empress always categorically refused the provisional security. On this short way, a man

ran up to the embankment and hit a triangular file on his chest. As it turned out, the criminal was an Italian anarchist Luigi Lukeni. The Empress still managed to reach the steamer, on board of which she died.

THAT MOST?

After the death of Elizabeth, the troubles of the Habsburg family did not end. The emperor's nephew Franz Ferdinand, who had become the heir of Rudolf's death, was killed in 1914 with his wife in Sarajevo, which was the formal reason for the outbreak of the First World War. The heir to the emperor, and they still remained 84-year-old Franz Joseph, announced the nephew of Franz Ferdinand, Archduke Charles.

At birth, he was considered the fifth in line for the throne, but after an early departure to the other world, the other aspirants turned out to be the first and became emperor in 1916 immediately after the death of Franz Joseph. But he reigned for only two years - Austria-Hungary fell apart ...

What is the fate of Florentine? When in 1918 the Austro-Hungarian Empire fell, members of the ruling family immigrated to Switzerland, taking with them most of the jewels, among which were Florentine. It is there that the traces of a unique diamond are lost - no one else has seen it.

The Habsburgs themselves believe that the jewel was stolen by someone from the close family and sold in the USA, where it was again cut. There is another version: the diamond was in South America, where it was sawed into several parts.

One way or another, four diamonds of a characteristic light yellow color weighing over 70 carats are known in the world today. If the origin of the three is well known, then the fourth suddenly surfaced in 1981 at

an auction in Switzerland.

The lady who was selling him could not clearly explain where he came from - they say, the father bought the diamond back in 1945. But for some reason he gave it for recutting. The same "Florentine"? Then he is unlikely to bring good luck to the next owner...

Druids and Stonehenge

Together with the discovery of the Druids in the pages of Greek and Roman authors came the realization that they worshiped their gods in groves and forest glades. Early antiquaries (lovers of antiquities), such as Shedius or Pufendorf, believed that there, in especially dark places under the canopy of oaks, they erected earthen altars.

According to the authoritative opinion of Pliny, for this were chosen oaks twined with mistletoe. Oaks acquired special significance after the biblical genealogy of European savages was studied and supplemented by fiction, because did not the oaks grow according to the Old Testament on the Mamvriyskaya Plain.

“O priests of the oaks! - Edmund Dickinson exclaimed in 1655. - Oh, the druid patriarchs! From you came the sect of the Druids, rooted in the depths of time, up to the age of Abraham. " This idea was shared by Thomas Smith in his work Syntagma de Druidum moribus ac institutis (1644). The groves of druids, described in all classical sources, continued to enjoy the love of antiquaria, artists, poets and the general public in the 18th century and beyond.

In the XVIII century, their popularity broke out with a new force. With the labor of antiquarians, the Druids were transformed into certain wizards, the wise men of ancient Britain, almost indistinguishable from

the Old Testament patriarchs and prophets, sometimes almost the forerunners of Christians. Among the theologians, the deists suddenly discovered that natural religion dates back to the times of primitive man and, in essence, is as old as the world. Thoughtful and sensitive people began to develop the concept of Nature in its untamed wild forms, as a perfect model, and from this point of view they welcomed the romanticism of Gothic architecture. Forest glade, shady oak grove acquired a religious color, very far from Shedius' non-metones, dotted with corpses.

William Stukli in his “Itinerarium Curiosum” (1724), in my opinion, the first began to produce Gothic architecture from a forest prototype (“This is the best style of the building, because its idea comes from walking under trees whose interlocking crowns wonderfully imitate the roof”). His friend, Bishop Warburton, somewhat later associated this style with the sacred groves of pagans-ready. “These northern peoples,” he wrote, “got used to worshiping a deity in groves in dark times of paganism,” so that, naturally, their first Christian churches, “smartly built, had to remind the groves as much as possible, architecture ".

Druids and Gothic pagan priests mixed together in many minds of the time, so that which was suitable for some, spread to others. Stukli, who had, as we shall see, completely different views on the druid shrines, still considered it appropriate to very unorthodoxly conclude his sermon on Valaam: “As before in the groves, so now in these representative buildings we worship the three holy faces of the deity.” And for fans of the natural religion, groves automatically became sacred, and Joseph Wharton in 1740 could rhetorically ask why a “lost person”

Aspires to cherish the flesh in the palaces, from the light to go under the halls of the vaults? After all, there are forests that God created the supreme architect of Mother Nature.

Groves, as believed in the XVIII century, and many thought so later, is the most suitable temple for the Druids, be they barbarian priests or patriarchal philosophers. Ironically, the beginning of field archeology led to a dramatic change in these views. As we remember, Aubrey wrote about the Druids in his Wiltshire essay (1659): “I would have demanded to restore some of these temples, such as Avebury, Stonehenge, and the like.” “Required” here sounds like a claim to the throne, and the claim is quite reasonable in the circumstances. He intelligently used the classic mention of pre-Roman Britain and for the first time added literary evidence to the results of his first-class fieldwork to study the great monuments of Avebury and Stonehenge and other smaller stone circles that exists in Western Britain.

Contrary to the opinions of many contemporaries, Aubrey not only did not consider these buildings to be Roman or built later, but considered them Old British. Moreover, he explained their character not with domestic or defensive purposes and did not see them intended for tombs, but “open-air temples,” suggesting that these were religious or ritual centers. And today we cannot offer better reasoning than Aubrey. He linked the time of creation of these monumental monuments with the Dorian priesthood and, by assigning them to the Druids, transformed the legendary background into archeology supported by ancient texts.

Apparently, he was discussing his ideas with Edward Luid of Eshmolin, who considered Aubrey’s considerations of stone circles “worthy of publication”. Louis himself wrote about such monuments: “I imagine that they could be places of offering sacrifices and performing other religious rites during the times of paganism, since the Druids were our ancient pagan priests.”

Aubrey also corresponded in 1693 with Professor James Garden of Aberdeen, wondering if he had any evidence of the druid origin of the local stone circles. Gardena was very fascinated by this idea, but with

true Scottish caution he was forced to admit that he did not find "in the name of these monuments or in the legends and customs associated with them nothing related to the druids."

John Toland, while still young, spoke in 1694 with Aubrey about druids and stone circles. He eagerly absorbed the views of Aubrey, which quite coincided with his own, and, although his work The History of the Druids never was written by him, the essence of his content fit into three letters addressed to his patron, Lord Molesworth. They were published posthumously in 1726. However, the extreme unpopularity of Toland, as a well-known free-thinker and dangerous-minded avid debater, had a bad influence on the fate of his conjectures about the meaning of stone circles. He assumed that they were druid temples. For respectable citizens, this thought did not arouse sympathy.

Aubrey developed his ideas on the subject with restraint and rationality in a book that has remained unpublished to this day. Its original name was Templa Druidum (Temples of the Druids), but then this title became the title of one of the chapters of the larger work Monumenta Britannica (Monuments of Britain). In 1693 there were a number of proposals to publish this work, but they ended with nothing. Edmund Gibson published excerpts from Templa Druidum in his Camden edition (1695). Aubrey died two years later.

In 1717 he got acquainted with the original manuscript and made extracts from it a thirty-year antiquary, Dr. William Stucli. Twenty years later, he published a book about Stonehenge, in which Aubrey's modest assumptions were developed and fantastic pictures were drawn, they fell into a stream of changing public opinions. The consequences of this we can observe to this day. It was Stucli who, for the first time, after many years of the best archaeological research of his time and, perhaps, subsequent generations, brought his Druids to Stonehenge with his stormy and reckless theories, in such a way that he forever conquered the

feelings of the unsophisticated public.

The idea of the connection of these monuments and the priesthood is so rooted in English folklore that they often forget that it was born only at the end of the 17th century. When Aubrey's assumption was published in 1695 by Gibson, it was just one of several alternative views on the origin of Stonehenge. Speculative arguments on this point began with Jeffrey of Monmouth, who in 1136 recorded legends about the magical transfer of this monument to Merlin from Ireland and installing it on the Salisbury Plain as a memorial to British noble soldiers who died by the hand of Gengist (Anglo-Saxon leader). Another view argued that this miracle is inexplicable.

And one author of the 14th century, who wrote the book “Mirabilibus Britanniae” (“Miracles of Britain”), honestly admitted that “at what time this monument was made, by which people and for what purpose, it is not known”. Camden repeats the stories of Jeffrey, but adds that he considers some of the stones to be artificial and, quoting Cicero, unfairly calls them "insane substructio".

However, beginning in the early years of the seventeenth century, more positive assumptions began to emerge. Some considered this name Brittany: "This stone building" STONAGE "is the work of the British, its rudeness is obvious," wrote Edmund Bolton in 1624. He believed that this is the tomb of Boudicca. John Gibbone, in his agitated essay “A Fools Bolt Soon Shott at Stonage”, declared this “monument to the“ Old-British triumphal temple of trophies ”, and Robert Plot in 1686 saw in him“ some Brittany forum or temple ”. Alett Samms in 1676 attributed the construction of his Phoenicians.

Chronologically, this is followed by the scientific school, which, however incredible this assumption may seem, considered Stonehenge and other stone circles like him as Roman monuments. The very first and

ardent champion of this idea was Inigo Jones, the most famous architect of his time, who worked in a classical manner. It would seem that he should have understood better than others that this was not the case, and not “restore the truth”, attributing his construction to the Romans even in the title of his work (“The most remarkable antiquity of Britain, vulgarly called Stonehenge”).

He considered it a temple of the Tuscan order. Jones' book was published posthumously in 1655 by his son-in-law, John Webb. In it, he carefully examines applicants for the creation of this monument among the Druids and Britons, but ultimately denies this possibility on the basis that classical sources do not mention any architectural skills of both (which is quite true). He also leaves no stone unturned in the idea of Edmund Bolton, that this is the tomb of Boudicca. After criticism of his statements by Charlton and other authors, Webb returns to the Roman origin of stone circles in 1665. By the beginning of the XVIII century, this idea was firmly established.

The stone circles' plans at Stanton-Drew (Somerset) were published in William Masgrave's work “British-Belgian Antiquities” in 1719 without mentioning the name of the village, just like Roman tombs. Their druid character was determined by later antiquaries on the basis of the name of the locality. Thomas Twining in 1723 described the monument in Avebury as Roman without explanation. Six years later, Thomas Hearn joined this view; and in Samy-el-Bowden's poem from 1733, we read:

Ancient Avebury catches the eye, Full of greatness Roman ruins.

The third group of contenders for the authorship of Stonehenge was the Danes. This opinion was particularly zealously defended by Dr. Walter Charlton in his essay "Chorea Gigantum" (1663). Sir William Dugdale endorsed the idea with grim solemnity, and John Dryden sang it

in a panegyrical poem. Dr. Plot a little later (1677) believed that the Rollright stone circle in Oxfordshire could also be Danish, because its name reminded him of the Scandinavian name Rollo. Charlton was influenced by the publication of Danish antiquary Olaus Wormius (Ole Worm) with descriptions and drawings of Danish megalithic monuments (1643rd and 1651). Unable to take Inigo Jones's point of view that Stonehenge is a Roman temple, he sent a copy of his book Wormu.

In further correspondence, he stated that the ideal similarity in the main, if not in all details, observed between the roughly magnificent constructions in Wiltshire and Denmark, clearly proves that Stonehenge was built by the Danes to become mainly royal the court, that is, the place for the selection and coronation of their kings. Like many archaeologists of that time, Charlton was summed up by the simple external similarity of monuments made of large stones, as well as the absence of any chronology capable of dividing Worm's historical tombs and historical Danes in England in the 9th century AD in time. e.

The German Georg Keisler, who traveled extensively in Northern Europe and lived in England, follows the same logic of reasoning in his book Antiquitates Selectae Septentrionales et Celticae (1720), where he calls Stonehenge a Saxon monument, because megalithic stone tombs are found in Schleshing Holstein. It is not surprising that in the presence of numerous conflicting theories in the academic world, the druids had no more chances for public sympathy than any other contenders for authorship of Stonehenge. The average reader would rather agree with Walter Pop, who wrote in the Salisbury Ballad in 1676:

I do not forget the stones of the huge circle,
Set on the Salsber Plain.
Who erected them?
Old enemy il friend,
Danes, Romans ... or remember Merlin?

The idea that Stonehenge and other stone circles could be druid temples was considered, as we saw, by John Aubrey and his friends in antiquaria in 1690, but the fate of publishing this theory, along with the theories about Phoenicians, Romans, Saxons and Danes, turned out to be unlucky. As soon as the Aubrey book was printed, a storm of hysterical opposition broke out, due to the fact that Toland's crazy ideas about the Druids were hosted. Their most convincing advocate was William Stucli, who in two of his publications on Stonehenge and Avebury (1740th and 1743) was based on the results of field work of archaeologists obtained in 1719-1724. Before we consider Stukly's later ideas in detail, we should note two figures of that time that played an important role in relation to the Druids.

The first of these is the Honorable Henry Rooles, vicar of Angles, whose Mona Antiqua Res-taurata was published in 1723. The special mention of Tacitus of the Druids at Englesey naturally led Ro-Wales to look for archaeological traces that could be associated with them. He even uses this formulation for the first time in the subtitle of his work "An Archaeological Discourse on the Antiquities" ("Review of the Archaeological Antiquities of Britain").

His Druids descended from Noah himself and "they are so close by their kind to the sources of true religion and worship, as if one of Noah's sons is their grandfather or great-grandfather and gave them the rites and customs of that true religion pure and unclouded." He thought that the Druids worshiped gods in oak groves, as on the plains of Mamberia, "on these vivid testimonies of Scripture, the most learned Dickinson bursts into exclamations," as we quoted. Their altars were stone pyramids, and chamber tombs covered with stones are known as cromlechs.

And although in his parish there is a stone circle, he considers it only an auxiliary attribute of the sacred grove. Rowlands imagines the

Druids to the Old Testament patriarchs, but leaves them in the oak trees of classical writers and cannot hide or ignore the references to their barbarism contained in the narrative of Tacitus. His valuable contribution to folk tales of prehistoric megalithic monuments was that he first invented druid stone altars.

The second contribution to the myth of the Druids and stone circles at the beginning of the XVIII century leads us to the most intriguing in the history of English architecture. John Wood, born in Bath in 1704, having quickly acquired some architectural experience in Yorkshire and London, returned to his hometown at twenty-one, with two remarkable and original building designs, which he carried out from 1727 to his death in 1754. Then they were continued by his son, John Wood Jr. His father's project description was not published until 1742, two years after he had made an exact measurement and inspection of Stonehenge. His final drawing, Stonehenge, was published in 1747, and by 1740 he was literally possessed by druids. He credited them with the university in Stanton-Drew circles and four elected colleges in Exmoor, Mendipe, Stonehenge and Avebury.

We have already said that he believed that Bledad Batsky is in fact an Abaris of the Hyperboreans. His designs for new buildings in Bath from 1725 included the Imperial Gymnasium, the Royal Forum and "another place, no less magnificent, for a sports exhibition called the Grand Circus." Sir John Summerson rightly inquired: "What prompted this obviously practical and competent young builder to present a trinity of impossibilities to society?" The answer, in his opinion, lies in his romantic love for archeology, which became "the catalyst that liberated the creative imagination of John Wood. In any project he proposed, there was a noticeable desire to revive ancient greatness. "

From an architectural point of view, this round square in Bath is one of the most original projects in European urban planning. By the

time Wood created it, there was nothing like it in Europe. "He was the pioneer of all such circuses, from Bath to Piccadilly, from Exter to Edinburgh." But why did Wood build it that way? What is the concept behind it? Contemporaries, who possessed flair, partially guessed about it. “It looks like Vespasian’s amphitheater turned inside out,” wrote Smollett. If Wood, which is quite possible, knew the Roman Colosseum only from imperfect and fuzzy engravings, he could consider it small and round and, accordingly, draw his unique city block. But not only the Colosseum can underlie his idea.

There is a tempting possibility of admitting that this “circus” took something from the druids. My thoughts about Bledad, Stanton-Drew and Stonehenge Wood were recorded around 1740. They certainly inspired the architect when he designed his buildings, that is, from 1725 and later. Wood actually mentions these two objects in his "Essay on Bath" of 1742. The plan of the above area is a regular circle of about three hundred feet in diameter, with three symmetrically located exits. This is an unusual location, not like the Colosseum or any other classical structure. The only Stonehenge plan available in the early 1720s belonged to Inigo Jones (in his book printed in 1655 or its reprints with additions to Webb and Charlton published in 1725, that is, the year Wood created his project).

At that time, the word "circus" did not mean the type of the corresponding Roman building. The circular walkway for ladies' carriages was known in 1712 to Alexander Popu as the “Hyde Park Circus”. In general, in England of the XVII century the word "circus" was used in the sense of "circle". Charlton uses it for the stone circle described by Ole Vorm, and for the Great Circus in Rome - the great circus and other grandiose buildings of the Romans in Italy.

Such classical terms were used without particular accuracy, in the end, the same Raft in 1686 Stonehenge "forum". And later, in the XVIII

century, someone spoke about Avebury as a Druid circus. The mysterious inscription on the map of Wiltshire, compiled by Andrews and Dury in 1773, where it says "Samons Cirens, for antiquarian reasons, is a Druidic temple", is just a mistake because of fuzzy engraving of the inscription in Italian font: from "Famous Circus" turned "Samons Cirens".

The charming confusion of Wood's archeological inspiration led to the merging in his imagination of the Druids, Stonehenge, the Great Circus and the Colosseum and gave us an exquisite architectural project with which he honored the past of his beloved city.

The earthen fence of this monument is depicted in the figure as a geometrically regular circle of 300 feet in diameter with three symmetrical gaps, which Jones considered to be inherent in it. As an architect, Wood could not treat Inigo Jones except with the deepest respect, no matter what he thought of Stonehenge, even if he did not consider him a temple of the Tuscan warrant. So for him it was quite acceptable and desirable to include in his grandiose project the architectural elements of the monument to the Druids.

Secrets and Assumptions

People have been always interested in all kinds of mysteries of the past, which is full of the centuries-old history of mankind. Some of them live for more than one millennium and at the same time constantly

acquire new facts, sometimes distorting genuine events beyond recognition. And it happens that the myths and legends that exist in the historical memory of many nations, after a deep and comprehensive study by researchers, become a serious basis for the development of scientific hypotheses and versions when solving the mysteries of the distant past. Mysteries of ancient civilizations do not cease to excite the minds of people.

The book that you have just opened and begin to read is unlikely to fully explain the entire past of mankind. It is only intended to raise questions and report a number of historically accurate and a number of alternative scientific information.

Alternative information can be believed, but you cannot believe, but in order to believe or not believe, you must first assess the weight of such information. This is what we and we will do, and along the way, of course, we will discover secrets - big and small, significant and not too much!

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Unfortunately, English is not the author's native language. All errors and inaccuracies in the book remain on his conscience.

Who made the first world tour?

Ask anyone, and he will tell you that the first person to travel around the world was the Portuguese navigator and explorer Ferdinand Magellan, who died on the island of Mactan (Philippines) during an armed clash with the natives (1521). The same is written in the history books. In fact, this is a myth. After all, it turns out that one excludes the other. Magellan managed to go only half way.

Primus circumdedisti me (you bypassed me first) - says the Latin inscription on the globe-topped coat of arms of Juan Sebastian Elcano.

Indeed, Elcano was the first person to sail around the world.

Let's all learn more details how it happened...

In the San Telmo Museum of the city of San Sebastián there is a painting of Salaverria entitled The Return of Victoria. Eighteen emaciated people in white shrouds, with lighted candles in their hands, stagger, descend the ladder from the ship to the embankment of Seville. They are sailors from the only ship that returned to Spain from the entire Magellan flotilla. Ahead - their captain, Juan Sebastian Elcano.

Much in the biography of Elcano is still not clear. Oddly enough, the man who first circled the globe, did not attract the attention of artists and historians of his time. There is not even a reliable portrait of him, and of the documents written by him, only letters to the king, petitions and testament are preserved.

Juan Sebastian Elcano was born in 1486 in Getaria, a small port town in the Basque Country, near San Sebastian. He sooner linked his own fate with the sea, making a “career” that was not uncommon for an enterprising person of that time — first changing his job as a fisherman to a smuggler, and later enrolling in the navy to avoid punishment for his too free attitude to laws and trade duties. Elcano managed to participate in the Italian wars and military campaign of the Spaniards in Algeria in 1509. Bask has mastered the maritime business quite well in practice when he was a smuggler, but it was in the navy that Elcano received the "correct" education in the field of navigation and astronomy.

In 1510, Elcano, the owner and captain of the ship, participated in the siege of Tripoli. But the Spanish treasury refused to pay Elcano the amount due for settlements with the crew. Leaving military service, never seriously enticing a young adventurer with low earnings and the need to maintain discipline, Elcano decides to start a new life in Seville.

Baska seems to have a bright future ahead of him - in a new city for him nobody knows about his not entirely flawless past, the navigator redeemed the law before the law in battles with the enemies of Spain, he has official papers allowing him to work as a captain on a merchant ship ... But the trading enterprises in which Elcano becomes a party turn out to be all as one unprofitable.

In 1517, in order to pay off debts, he sold the vessel, which was under his command, to Genoa bankers - and this trading operation determined his entire fate. The fact is that the owner of the sold ship was not Elcano himself, but the Spanish crown, and Basque expectedly again had difficulties with the law, this time threatening him with the death penalty. At that time it was considered a grave crime. Knowing that the court would not take any excuses into account, Elcano fled to Seville, where it was easy to get lost, and then hide on any ship: at that time, the captains were the least interested in the biographies of their people.

In addition, in Seville there were many countrymen of Elcano, and one of them, Ibarolla, was well acquainted with Magellan. He helped Elcano to enroll in the Magellan flotilla. Having passed the exams and received beans as a good mark (the peasants who had handed over from the examination commission), Elcano became the helmsman on the third largest ship of the flotilla, the Concepcion.

On September 20, 1519, the Magellan flotilla emerged from the mouth of the Guadalquivir and headed for the shores of Brazil. In April 1520, when the ships settled for the winter in the frosty and deserted bay of San Julian, captains dissatisfied with Magellan started a mutiny. Elcano was drawn into him, not daring to disobey his commander, Captain Concepcion of Quesada.

Magellan vigorously and brutally suppressed the rebellion: Quesade and another of the leaders of the conspiracy was beheaded, the

corpses were quartered and the mutilated remains were stumbled onto the poles. Captain Cartagena and one priest, also the instigator of the rebellion, Magellan ordered the bay to be landed on the deserted shore, where they subsequently died. The remaining forty rioters, including Elcano, Magellan spared.

1. First ever circumnavigation

On November 28, 1520, the remaining three ships left the strait and in March 1521, after an unprecedentedly difficult crossing across the Pacific Ocean, approached the islands, later called the Mariana Islands. In the same month, Magellan discovered the Philippine Islands, and on April 27, 1521, he died in a skirmish with the locals on Matan Island. Elcano, affected by scurvy, did not participate in this skirmish. After the death of Magellan, Duarte Barbosa and Juan Serrano were elected captains of the flotilla. At the head of a small detachment, they went ashore to Raja Cebu and were slainly crafted. Fate again - for the umpteenth time - spared Elcano.

The head of the flotilla was Karvalho. But there are only 115 people left on the three ships; among them are many sick. Therefore, "Concepcion" burned in the strait between the islands of Cebu and Bohol; and his crew switched to the other two vessels, the Victoria and Trinidad. Both vessels still wandered between the islands for a long time, until finally, on November 8, 1521, they anchored off Thydore island, one of the “Islands of Spices” - the Moluccas. Then it was generally decided to continue sailing on one ship - the “Victoria”, whose captain shortly before this was Elcano, and the “Trinidad” to leave on the Moluki. And Elcano managed to carry out his worm-borne ship with a starving crew across the Indian Ocean and along the shores of Africa. A third of the team died, about a third was detained by the Portuguese, but still "Victoria" on September 8, 1522 entered the mouth of the Guadalquivir.

It was an unparalleled transition unheard of in the history of navigation. Contemporaries wrote that Elcano surpassed King Solomon, the Argonauts and the cunning Odyssey. The first circumnavigation in history has been completed! The king granted the navigator an annual retirement of 500 gold ducats and made Elcano knight. The coat of arms appropriated by Elcano (since then already del Cano) perpetuated his voyage.

On the coat of arms were depicted two sticks of cinnamon, framed with nutmeg and cloves, a golden lock topped with a helmet. Above the helmet is a globe with a Latin inscription: “You were the first to go round me.” Finally, a special decree of the king announced Elkano forgiveness for the sale of the ship to a foreigner. But if to reward and forgive the brave captain was quite simple, then it would have been more difficult to resolve all the controversial issues related to the fate of the Moluccas. The Spanish-Portuguese Congress met for a long time, but was never able to “divide” the islands on the other side of the “earth apple” between the two powerful powers. And the Spanish government decided not to delay sending the second expedition to the Molukki.

2. Farewell to La Coruna

La Coruna was considered the safest port in Spain, which "could accommodate all the fleets of the world." The importance of the city increased further when the Indian Chamber of Commerce was temporarily transferred here from Seville. This chamber was developing plans for a new expedition to the Moluccas, to finally approve the Spanish rule on these islands. Elcano arrived in A Coruña full of bright hopes — he already saw himself as an admiral of the armada — and set about equipping the flotilla. However, Charles I appointed the commander not of Elcano, but of a certain Hofre de Loais, a participant in many sea battles, but completely unfamiliar with navigation.

Elcano's pride was deeply hurt. In addition, the royal office received a “highest refusal” to ask Elcano to pay an annual pension of 500 gold ducats granted to him: the king ordered to pay this amount only after returning from the expedition. So Elcano experienced the traditional ingratitude of the Spanish crown to the famous navigators.

Before sailing, Elcano visited his native Getaria, where he, a renowned sailor, easily managed to recruit a lot of volunteers onto his ships: you couldn’t disappear with a man who bypassed the “earth apple” and the devil in his mouth - the port brethren argued. At the beginning of the summer of 1525, Elcano brought his four vessels to A Coruña and was appointed helmsman and deputy fleet commander. In total, the flotilla consisted of seven ships and 450 crew members. There were no Portuguese on this expedition. The last night before the flotilla sailed to La Coruna was very lively and solemn.

At midnight on the mountain of Hercules, in the place of the ruins of a Roman lighthouse, a huge bonfire was lit. The city said goodbye to the sailors. The cries of the townspeople who treated the sailors with wine from leather bottles, the sobs of women and the hymns of the pilgrims mingled with the sounds of the cheerful dance “La muneira”. The sailors of the flotilla remembered this night for a long time. They went to another hemisphere, and they now had a life full of dangers and deprivations. The last time Elcano walked under the narrow arch of Puerto de San Miguel and descended sixteen pink steps to the shore. These steps, already completely erased, have survived to this day.

3. Unhappiness of the main helmsman

The mighty, well-armed Flotilla Loaysa went to sea on July 24, 1525. According to the royal instructions, Loaysa generally had fifty-three of them, the flotilla should have followed the path of Magellan, but

avoided his mistakes. But neither Elcano, the chief adviser of the king, nor the king himself foresaw that this would be the last expedition sent through the Strait of Magellan. It was the Loays expedition that was destined to prove that this was not the most profitable route. And all subsequent expeditions to Asia were sent from the Pacific ports of New Spain (Mexico).

On July 26, ships circled Cape Finisterre. August 18, the court hit a heavy storm. On the admiral's ship the mainmast broke, but two carpenters sent by Elcano, risking their lives, nevertheless got there on a small boat. While the mast was being repaired, the flagship vessel collided with the ship “Parral”, breaking its mizzen-mast.

Swimming was very hard. There was not enough fresh water, provisions. Who knows what the fate of the expedition would have been if, on October 20, the watchman had not seen on the horizon the island of Annobon in the Gulf of Guinea. The island was deserted - only a few skeletons lay under a tree, on which a strange inscription was carved: "Here is the unfortunate Juan Ruiz, killed because he deserved it." Superstitious sailors saw this as a formidable omen. Ships were quickly filled with water, stocked with provisions. The captains and officers of the flotilla on this occasion were convened for a festive dinner for the admiral, who almost ended tragically.

A huge, unknown breed of fish was served on the table. According to Urdaneta, Elcano's page and the chronicler of the expedition, some sailors "who ate the meat of this fish, whose teeth were like a big dog, had stomachs so sore that they thought they would not survive." Soon the entire flotilla left the shores of inhospitable Annobona. From here Loaysa decided to sail to the shores of Brazil. And from that moment for the Sancti Espiritus, the ship of Elcano, a period of misfortunes began.

Not having had time to set sail, the Sancti Espiritus almost collided

with an admiral ship, and then generally behind the flotilla for some time. At latitude 31º after a strong storm, the admiral ship disappeared from sight. The command of the remaining courts took over Elcano. Then the San Gabriel separated from the flotilla. The remaining five ships searched for the admiral's ship for three days. Searches were unsuccessful, and Elcano ordered to go further, to the Strait of Magellan.

On January 12, the ships began at the mouth of the Santa Cruz River, and since neither the admiral's vessel nor the San Gabriel came here, Elcano convened a council. Knowing from the experience of the previous voyage that there was an excellent mooring, he suggested to expect both vessels, as it was provided for by the instructions.

However, officers who wanted to enter the strait as soon as possible, advised to leave at the mouth of the river only the Santiago pinnacle, burial in a bank under the cross on an island, saying that the ships headed for the Strait of Magellan. On the morning of January 14, the flotilla was removed from the anchor. But what Elcano took for the strait was the mouth of the river Gallegos, five or six miles from the strait. Urdaneta, who, despite his admiration for Elcano. retained the ability to treat his decisions critically, writes that such a mistake by Elcano impressed him very much. On the same day, they approached the present entrance to the strait and anchored at Cape Eleven Thousand Holy Virgins.

At night, a terrible storm struck the flotilla. Raging waves flooded the ship to the middle of the masts, and it barely held on four anchors. Elcano realized that all was lost. His only thought was now to save the team. He ordered the ship to be stranded. Panic broke out at Sancti Espiritus. In horror, several soldiers and sailors rushed into the water; all drowned, except for one who managed to reach the shore. Then the rest crossed to the shore. It managed to save part of the provisions.

However, at night the storm broke out with the same force and finally broke the Sancti Espiritus. For Elkano - the captain, the first round-the-world navigator and the main helmsman of the expedition - a wreck, especially because of his fault, was a big blow. Elcano has never been in such a difficult position. When the storm finally subsided, the captains of the other ships sent a boat for Elcano, inviting him to lead them through the Strait of Magellan, as he had been here before. Elcano agreed, but he took only Urdaneta with him. The rest of the sailors he left on the shore...

But the failures did not leave the tormented fleet. From the very beginning, one of the ships almost hit the stones, and only Elcano's determination saved the ship. After some time, Elcano sent Urdaneta with a group of sailors for the sailors left on the shore. Soon, the Urdaneta group dried up its provisions. At night there were severe colds, and people were forced to bury themselves in the sand, which also warmed little. On the fourth day, Urdaneta and his companions approached the sailors dying on the coast from hunger and cold, and on the same day the ship Loaysa, San Gabriel and Pinass Santiago entered the mouth of the strait. On January 20, they joined the rest of the flotilla ships.

On February 5 a strong storm broke out again. The ship Elcano took refuge in the strait, and the "San Lesmes" was thrown by the storm further south, up to 54 ° 50 ′ south latitude, that is, it approached the very tip of Tierra del Fuego. To the south at that time not a single ship came. A little more, and the expedition could open the way around Cape Horn. After the storm, it turned out that the Admiral ship was aground, and Loaysa and the crew left the ship. Elcano immediately sent a group of the best sailors to help the admiral.

On the same day she deserted Anunsiada. The captain of the ship de Vera decided to independently get to the Molucca past the Cape of

Good Hope. Anunsiada is missing. A few days later, San Gabriel also deserted. The remaining ships returned to the mouth of the Santa Cruz River, where the sailors began to repair the admiral's ship, which was pretty battered by storms. In other conditions, it would have had to be left at all, but now that the flotilla has lost the three largest ships, this could no longer be allowed.

Elcano, who, on his return to Spain, had criticized Magellan for staying at the mouth of this river for seven weeks, now he himself had to spend five weeks here. In late March, somehow patched ships again headed for the Strait of Magellan. The expedition now included only an admiral ship, two caravels and a pinass.

On April 5, the vessels entered the Strait of Magellan. Between the islands of Santa Maria and Santa Magdalena, the admiral ship befell another disaster. A boiling resin boiler caught fire, a fire broke out on the ship.

A panic began, many sailors rushed to the boat, not paying attention to Loaysu, who showered them with curses. The fire still managed to extinguish. The flotilla went further through the strait, along the banks of which on the high mountain peaks, “so high that it seemed that they stretched all the way to the sky,” lay eternal bluish snow. At night, fires of Patagonians burned on both sides of the strait. Elcano already knew these lights from the first voyage. On April 25, the ships anchored from the San Jorge site, where they replenished water and firewood, and again set sail for a difficult voyage.

And where the waves of both oceans meet with a deafening roar, the storm flooded again on the Loaysa flotilla. Ships anchored in the bay of San Juan de Portalina. On the shores of the bay rose several thousand feet high mountains. It was terribly cold, and “no clothes could warm us,” writes Urdaneta. Elcano was on the flagship all the time: Loaysa,

having no relevant experience, relied entirely on Elcano. The passage through the strait was lasted forty-eight days — ten days more than that of Magellan.

May 31, a strong northeast wind blew. The whole sky was overcast. On the night of June 1 and 2, a storm broke out, the worst of which was until now, swept away all the ships. Although the weather improved afterwards, they were not destined to meet. Elcano, with the majority of the Sancti Espiritus team, was now on the admiral's ship, where there were one hundred and twenty people. Two pumps did not have time to pump out the water; they feared that the ship could sink at any moment. In general, the ocean was Great, but not at all Quiet.

4. Pilot dying admiral

The ship went one, on the immense horizon could not see any sail or island. “Every day,” writes Urdaneta, “we waited for the end. Due to the fact that people have moved to us from the wrecked ship, we are forced to reduce the ration. We worked hard and ate little. We had to endure great difficulties, and some of us died. ” July 30, Loaysa died. According to one of the members of the expedition, the cause of his death was discouragement; he was so worried about the loss of the rest of the courts, that "he grew weaker and died."

Loaysa did not forget to mention in the will of his main helmsman: “I ask Elcano to return the four barrels of white wine that I owe him. The crackers and other provisions that lie on my ship "Santa Maria de la Victoria", let them give it to my nephew Alvaro de Loais, who must share it with Elcano. " They say that by this time only rats were left on the ship. On the ship, many had scurvy. Where Elcano looked, everywhere he saw swollen pale faces and heard the moans of sailors.

Since they left the strait, thirty people have died from scurvy.

“They all died,” writes Urdaneta, “because their gums have swollen and could not eat anything. I saw a man whose gums were so swollen that he tore off pieces of meat as thick as a finger. ” The sailors had one hope - Elcano. They, in spite of everything, believed in his lucky star, although he was so sick that four days before his death Loaysa himself made a testament. In honor of Elcano's assumption of the post of admiral - a position that he unsuccessfully sought two years ago - he was given a gun salute. But Elcano's strength was drying up.

The day came when the admiral could not get up from his bed. His close and loyal Urdaneta gathered in the cabin. In the flickering light of a candle, it was clear how they smelled and how much they suffered. Urdaneta kneels and with one hand touches the body of his dying master. The priest is watching him closely. Finally, he raises his hand, and all those present are slowly kneeling. Elcano's wanderings are over ...

“Monday, 6th of August. The gallant seigneur Juan Sebastian de Elcano died. ” So noted Urdaneta in his diary the death of the great navigator.

Four people raise the body of Juan Sebastian wrapped in a shroud and tied to a board. At the sign of the new admiral, they throw him into the sea. There was a surge, drowning the priest's prayers.

Epilogue

Worn out by worms, torn by storms and storms, the lonely ship continued on its way. The team, according to Urdaneta, “was terribly exhausted and exhausted. There wasn’t a day that any of us would die.

Therefore, we decided that the best for us was to go to the Molukks. ” Thus, they abandoned Elcano’s bold plan, which was intent on fulfilling Columbus’s dream of reaching the east coast of Asia,

following the shortest route from the west. “I’m sure that if Elcano hadn’t died, we wouldn’t have reached Ladron (Mariana) Islands so soon, because his usual intention was to search for Chipans (Japan),” writes Urdaneta. He clearly thought Elcano’s plan was too risky. But the man who first walked around the “earth apple” did not know what fear was. But he also did not know that after three years, Charles I would give up his “rights” to the Moluccas of Portugal for 350 thousand gold ducats.

Of the entire Loaysa expedition, only two vessels survived: the San Gabriel, after two years of sailing, reached Spain, and the Santiago pinnacle under the command of Guevara, which passed along the Pacific coast of South America to Mexico. Although Guevara saw only once the coast of South America, his voyage proved that the coast never protrudes far to the west and South America has the shape of a triangle. This was the most important geographical discovery of the Loaysa expedition.

Getaria, in Elcano's homeland, is a stone slab at the entrance to the church, a half-rubble inscription reads: “... honorable captain Juan Sebastian del Cano, a native and resident of the noble and faithful city of Getaria, first circled the globe on the ship Victoria. In memory of the hero, Don Pedro de Etaw and Hazy, the holder of the Order of Calatrava, put this plate in 1661. Pray for the peace of the soul of the one who first made the journey around the world.” And on the globe in the museum of San Telmo, the place where Elcano died is marked - 157º west longitude and 9º north latitude.

In the history books Juan Sebastian Elcano unfairly fell into the shadow of the glory of Fernand Magellan, but in his homeland he is remembered and revered. The name Elcano bears a training sailboat in the Spanish Navy. In the wheelhouse you can see the coat of arms of Elcano, and the sailboat itself managed to carry out a dozen round-the-world expeditions.

Takenuchi Manuscript

The Takenuchi manuscript is a series of mysterious documents that 1,500 years ago a man named Takenuchi Matori rewrote with a mixture of Japanese and Chinese characters.

The test is taken from even more ancient manuscripts. According to legend, the "gods" wrote the original manuscript with divine hieroglyphs many thousands of years ago.

The unusual manuscript describes the history of mankind from the moment of its creation until the advent of Christianity. It speaks of an era when people lived in peace and harmony under the control of the son of the supreme God.

Texts Takenuchi was kept by the Takenuchi family, descendants of Takenuchino Matori, the son of the legendary Japanese hero Takenuchi no Sukune. Jaaman Kiku's True Story of the World, Hidden in Japan, says that manuscripts were handed down from generation to generation and were kept in the Kosokotaichingu temple on Omijin Mountain in Toyama Prefecture.

It is not clear how Takenuchino Matori managed to translate from the "divine language." But according to modern transcription, Takenuchi texts describe the history of all countries in the "divine era". It tells about four periods in the ancient world, which began about 300 billion years ago.

Seven generations of "heavenly gods" in the era of Tenjing.
The Yoko / Koto era - 25 generations.
Dynasty Fukiedzu - 73 generations.

Dynasty Kanyamoto - 125 generations, which began in 660 BC. and continuing to this day.

In the beginning it says that before the creation there was a sea of liquid mud. It took 22 billion years to form the world. The first God and Goddess appeared, the sky and the earth were divided, the Sun and the Moon were created. Gradually, over six generations, the Earth was formed. In the fifth generation, the gods spawned the creator of nations with a radiant body that descended on Mount Kurai in Japan.

For seven generations, various creatures have created technologies, including transportation, writing, weather management, agriculture, and computers. The seventh generation gave rise to world emperors, beginning with the Sumera-Mikoto. In the Takunuchi manuscript, the Sumera-Mikoto is called the "Son of the Sun" because it originated from the Sun God.

The children of the Sun God founded the highest ancient dynasty, and after 8 billion years their offspring descended into the world to establish their own countries. The Takenuchi manuscript states that humanity did not arise as a result of evolution, but was created by gods.

The sons of the gods created the people of five races (white, red, blue, yellow and black) and scattered them on the Earth. Japan became the center of the world, from where the gods created the races and settled them in other regions.

In the Koto era, there was a single world government in the world, headed by the first divine emperor Sumera-Mikoto. Sumera-Mikoto divided the world into 16 regions and appointed a king in each region.

The coat of arms of the Sumera-Mikoty is a chrysanthemum with 16 petals, symbolized 16 regions. This chrysanthemum is today used as

the imperial seal and the emblem of the family of the Japanese emperor. She is also depicted on Japanese passports.

Chrysanthemum with 16 petals is known not only in Japan. She is depicted at the Ishtar Gate of Babylon, in the Alhambra Palace in Spain and in some places in Rome, Egypt and other regions. Is this a coincidence, or did connections exist in ancient times between these regions?

The office of the world government was located in the mountains of Hida in Japan. Kosokotajsingu temple was considered the most sacred. He was dedicated to the ancestors of mankind. The temple was built of stainless metal called hihirokane. According to the Takenuchi manuscript, people of all five races came to the temple for the annual festival.

The documents say that the Sumera-Mikoto traveled frequently around the world. He traveled on an air vehicle called ameno ukifune (“flying ships”). The places where the flying ships landed were called “Khane” (winds). In Japan, many place names include the word "khan". These were the ancient landing strip. Even today, one of the airports in Tokyo is called Haneda Airport.

The basis of the social structure was agriculture. The land belonged to the gods, but was ruled by people. Although people received land for rent, they did not have to pay taxes. No one controlled or exploited them. People enjoyed the fruits of their labor. Sumera-Mikoto wanted to bring happiness to the people who loved and revered him.

But the Sumera-Mikoto decided who would be the king of the region, and who would not be suitable for that. He endowed the ruler with power or took power depending on the abilities of the person.

This echoes the ancient Sumerian texts, where it is said that the ancient kings were directly appointed by the gods, and the very first kings themselves were gods.

The text mentions the construction of numerous “hiramito” (“temples”) for the sun god. The word "pyramid" supposedly comes from the word "hiramito." The pyramids were man-made, or the shape of the pyramids gave the shape of natural hills. Sumera-Mikoto used the pyramids to communicate with the heavenly gods.

As in similar legends, the golden age ended when people stopped honoring the gods. In this case, it happened during the Fukjadzu dynasty, which put an end to the thousand-year prosperity. Due to natural disasters, two continents - Tamiara and Miyoy, sank in the ocean.

At the end of the dynasty, a 200-meter tsunami devastated Japan. These disasters arose due to the fact that the soul of the people has deteriorated. People have forgotten the Sumera-Mikotu, become arrogant and angered the gods.

The most striking moment in the Takenuchi manuscript is the mention of Moses and Jesus, who allegedly ended their lives in Japan.

Even more surprising, their graves are located there. The so-called tomb of Jesus (who allegedly lived to be 106 years old) is located in the remote mountains of northern Japan in the strange small town of Shingo in Aomori prefecture.

The name of the town – is Kyrisuto Po Sato, which means "the city of Christ." A few minutes drive from the center there is a grave with a high wooden cross 2.5 meters high, enclosed with a fence.

According to the Takenuchi manuscript, Moses also died in Japan

at the age of 583 years. His alleged grave is located at the foot of Mount Khodatsu in Ishikawa Prefecture.

It is impossible to find out the authenticity and origin of the Takenuchi documents, because the original manuscript was confiscated by the government and later lost.

According to Ichiro Yamane, grandson of Kiku Yamane, who wrote the book The Genuine History of the World Hidden in Japan, the Takenuchi manuscript is a propaganda material written by the Japanese military. They wanted to justify the idea that the emperor of Japan should rule the world. Indeed, according to the manuscript, humanity was settled from Japan, and Japan was the center of the world.

In the 19th century, Kiyamaro Takenuchi founded a Shinto branch based on the Takenuchi manuscript.

Today, many experts believe that the Takenuchi manuscript is just a clever fake. Others believe that there is some truth. Since the original text is lost forever, this mystery will probably never be solved.

Ancient Heraklion - Lost City Underwater

More than 2 thousand years ago, the port city of Heraklion, which was located at the mouth of the Nile and 25 kilometers to the east in Alexandria, was considered the gate of Egypt. Through this port the ships entered Egypt and left it. Today this city is not. It lies on the seabed. Once Heraklion was located on the territory, about a meter towering above sea level. Now the city lies at the bottom of Abukir Bay at a depth of six meters.

Archaeologists under the leadership of Frank Goddio, the founder

of the European Institute of Underwater Archeology in Paris, announced that they discovered the ruins of an ancient city, its pier, temples, statues of Greek gods, houses at the bottom of the sea ... Napoleon's fleet, sunk in 1798 by the British, led by Admiral Nelson.

But in the blink of an eye, Heraklion disappeared. In the first century BC there was a strong earthquake that flattened the houses, sank the ships in the harbor, killed most of the inhabitants of the city, forcing the rest to flee, leaving all valuable property.

Why did the city of Heraklion together with the surrounding villages sink to the bottom in the late 800s BC? Maybe this area experienced a terrible flood, and under the weight of the waves the marshy land at the mouth of the Nile went under the water along with everything that was on them? Or is it all because of a strong earthquake, as a result of which a huge area went underground and then was flooded by the waters of the Mediterranean? “These questions have to be answered, first and foremost, by geophysicists,” said Stanford University professor Amos Nour, who chaired the conference of the American Geophysical Society devoted to the research of sunken cities. The conference was held recently in San Francisco. "And yet," the professor continues, "it will be necessary to determine whether the submersion was submerged or gradual, as a result of some kind of cataclysm."

In the center of Heraklion stood the temple of Hercules. This temple was described by the ancient Greek historian Herodotus, who visited Hellenized Egypt in 450 BC. Heraklion was also famous for temples in honor of other gods, Greek and Egyptian: Serapis, the god of fertility and healing, Isis, the goddess of motherhood, Anubis, the patron saint of the dead.

The ancient Greek historian and geographer Strabo, who lived around the time of Jesus Christ, described the life of the citizens of

Heraklion as idle and immoral. The sad fate of Heraklion can tell scientists what potential dangers threaten modern Alexandria. Professor Nur had previously studied the geology of this area, but earlier periods. And he concluded that a series of earthquakes in the Mediterranean zone, which lasted for 50 years in the 1200s BC, led to the flooding of Troy, Jericho and almost 50 other cities-states that flourished at the end of the Bronze Age. Speaking at a conference in San Francisco, Professor Nur said that, as underwater archaeologists noticed, the granite columns of the Hercules temple all fell in one direction. This indicates that the cause of the fall could be the strongest flow of water.

But what caused this flow? Perhaps an earthquake similar to that which occurred in the 365th year of our era on the island of Crete. The strength of his current classification is 8.5 points. As a result of the earthquake, the sea level rose 25 feet. Something similar, according to Professor Nur, happened about 7 thousand years ago off the coast of Norway, when a series of underwater earthquakes caused a terrible cataclysm: thousands of square kilometers of the continental shelf turned into the seabed. Similarly, tsunamis caused by earthquakes or landslides could permanently leave the coastal areas of ancient Egypt under water.

For two thousand years, the ruins of the city, hidden from prying eyes by silt and ten meters of water, lay 3 kilometers off the coast of Alexandria in the bay of Abukir.

But last summer, the French archaeologist Frank Godyo announced that he had discovered the remains of a city that, in his opinion, belong to Heraklion: a black granite slab or stele on which the word "Heraklion" is written, the remains of ten ships in the former harbor, as well as thousands of other items including jewels, coins, vases and personal items.

Scientists are surprised by the fact that although in ancient

historical chronicles there are records of many major earthquakes and tsunamis, including those that destroyed government palaces in the eastern part of Alexandria harbor in 365 AD, there is no mention of a natural disaster that led to the death of Heraklion. Professor Nour put forward his version of the causes of the disaster: apparently, an underwater earthquake occurred, which stretched from the Gulf of Suez across Abukir Bay to Crete, or a tectonic crack ran parallel to the entire coastline of North Africa. Jean-Daniel Stanley, a senior oceanographer at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, thinks that the cause of the destruction was most likely Neil, and not tremors. “I do not exclude earthquakes,” he said, “but more likely floods are caused by the Nile flood.”

North of Cairo, the Nile is divided into several sleeves, and one of the largest once flowed near Heraklion. Investigating earlier images of the bottom layers of the Nile delta, Jean-Daniel Stanley concluded that 2,000 years ago, the sleeve of the Nile in question, under the influence of obscure natural disasters, moved several kilometers to the East before it began to shallow and completely disappear.

Perhaps the culprit is a whole series of catastrophic floods, as a result of which the Nile changed its course. Several gold coins found by archaeologists during underwater excavations give some reason to speculate on when the disaster struck. The last coin found could have been minted between the 720th and 740th years of our era.

Jean-Daniel Stanley verified his assumptions with sea level measurement data using a sharp-looking stone camera in Katrezh. They made measurements of the level of the Nile from the 640th year of our era. The scientist found here evidence that severe flooding occurred in 741 and 742. “Under the weight of the spilled water, the marshy soil on which Heraklion stood was easily eroded,” says Professor Stanley. - The city was built on a marshy plain, only 90-100 centimeters above sea

level.

One can imagine that even a small but sharp rise of water in the river could simply wash away the city. A large rise of water - and completely flooded. At the same time, flood damage could have been caused only to limited areas adjacent to the river mouth, for example. In an earthquake, the destruction would have been much more significant and would cover a much larger area. ”

The inscription on the basis of the stele certifies that this plate was to be erected in “Herakleion-Thonis”. This is the first clear evidence that the discovered city is still half-mythical by Heraklion.

Although modern scientists know little about this city, the whole ancient world knew it. The Greek historian Diodorus wrote that Hercules, the son of Zeus, blocked the flow of the Nile and thereby saved the lives of people on the banks of the river. In gratitude, people erected a temple named after him and named the city in his honor. According to another Greek historian, Herodotus, Helen the Beautiful and her beloved Paris fled to Heraklion, fleeing the wrath of her husband Helen, Menelaus, but they were forced to return by Tonis, the guardian of the gates of the Nile.

The Greek historian of the 6th century tells a different story about these events. Stesichor He says that the Greeks were deceived by the gods about the location of Helen the Beautiful in order to reduce the population of Troy with the help of the war. Actually, Stesichor considers, during the Trojan War Elena was in Heraklion.

Archaeologist Frank Godeau did not find evidence of the presence of Helen the Beautiful here, but his discovery seems fantastic. One of the first was found the great temple of Heraklion.

Proponents of the earthquake theory point to a cleft that runs through one of the temples, 3 meters wide, 1.5 meters deep, and several hundred meters long. This cleft, according to Professor Nur, was the result of tectonic shifts that caused earthquakes. Opponent Nurah Stanley is inclined to think that the cleft was formed as a result of flooding - the soil was washed away from below and spread: “There is nothing unique in such clefts,” says Jean-Daniel Stanley. “They are found in the deltas of large rivers, for example, the Mississippi in the USA and the Yangtze in China.”

Remains of thick stone walls indicate the boundary of its territory. Near the destroyed walls, archaeologists found three huge statues of pink granite, which were allegedly defeated during the earthquake. Two statues depict the hitherto unknown Pharaoh and his wife. The third statue is Hapi, the Egyptian god of the flood of the Nile.

Inside the temple is a monumental tomb of pink granite, covered with hieroglyphs. Its upper part still presents difficulties for reading, but a preliminary translation of the texts placed on the lower parts shows that this is undoubtedly the temple of Heraklion. A number of scientists, including Manfred Clauss from the University of Frankfurt, believe that the final decoding of the inscriptions on the tomb will give even more.

Even more impressive is the two-meter black granite stela - an almost complete copy of the stela found in 1899 in Nokrazhe. This is the first case of duplication of steles in Egyptology. The stela of Nokratzha, which is now in the Egyptian Museum in Cairo, bears the text of the decree of the pharaoh Noctanebus I, founder of the 30th dynasty, who ascended the throne in November 380 BC. This decree introduced a 10 percent tax on Greek artisans and goods in Nokratzhe and Tonis, which was to be directed to the construction of the temple to the goddess Neith.

The text ends with the words: “And His Majesty said:“ Let it be

carved on a stele erected in Nokrache, on the bank of the Anu Canal. ” The stele found is neither different from the first one, except for the last sentence, which says: "And His Majesty said:" Let this be carved on a stele installed at the entrance to the Greek Sea in Heraklion-Tonis."

Godio's group also found the place where Heraklion’s harbor was located, which now contains debris of at least 10 ships piled up in a heap. This suggests that they died from a tidal wave that followed the earthquake.

Everywhere, where researchers examined the underwater city, they found various subjects. All of them date from the period from the first century BC and earlier. Most of them are in good condition, despite being under water for 2 thousand years.

Among the finds are gold earrings, bracelets, hairpins, rings, combs, a beautiful Greek goblet covered with icing, a smoker for aromatic substances, hundreds of coins. All of them have only a slightly scratched surface. And this is only the beginning - the main excavations (if this concept can be applied to archaeological work under water) are ahead.

The origin of the cleft was one of the main subjects of scientific discussions at the conference of geophysicists in San Francisco. However, scientists agreed that the cleft arose before the final destruction and disappearance of Heraklion. The keepers of the temple of Hercules were clearly trying to restore the damaged building, reinforce both sides of the cleft with green plantings and cover it with sand. The sand found in the cleft is identical to the sand on the beaches of Aboukir and is not like the mud that usually covers the seabed. Scientific disputes about the causes of the death of Heraklion continue. Archaeologists and geologists should return to Abukir this spring to continue the search for an answer to the question: why did the city of Heraklion be at the bottom

of the sea?

Who is he, Vlad Tsepeshh Count Dracula?

For nearly six centuries, Vlad Tsepeshh has been drawn to the ominous shadow of his fearsome reputation. It seems that this is actually about fiend. The bloodthirsty vampire, "the horror that flies on the wings of the night," the despot, is impalement for the slightest offense, and so on and so forth. Vlad Tsepeshh turned into a monster in the mass consciousness, which had no equal.

Or maybe it was a usual figure for that epoch, of course, possessing outstanding personal qualities, among which demonstrative cruelty did not take the last place? About Dracula make horror films and write books, chilling blood. About the personality of the Wallachian ruler, disputes are still going on; regular attempts are being made to clarify the relationship between myth and reality, truth and fiction in the descriptions of this person. However, when trying to understand the events that are almost six centuries apart from us, sometimes unconsciously, and sometimes, new myths are intentionally created around the image of this person.

So what was he really like and why was he chosen as the “main vampire” of the story? Who was the one who, for millions of readers and moviegoers, became the embodiment of vampirism? At home, in Romania, he is generally considered to be a champion of "cruel justice", a savior and protector of the fatherland. One of the researchers formulated this strange antithesis as follows: “The notorious Dracula, the Wallachian sadist and patriot”.

But ambiguities begin immediately, as soon as we try to reproduce the full name, title and nickname of our hero. Some sources confidently

call the Wallachian ruler Vlad III, while others - no less confidently - Vlad IV. And this is not about the father and son (the father’s serial number, also Vlad, varies, respectively), but about the same person. Of course, over the antiquity of years such differences are not surprising ... But, on the other hand, no one is confused in the numbers of much more numerous Louis!

The year of his birth, not to mention the date, is not exactly known. Vlad Tsepeshh-Dracula was most likely born in 1430 or 1431 (some even name 1428 or 1429) when his father, Vlad Dracul, a contender for the Valashian throne, supported by the emperor of the "Holy Roman Empire" Sigismund of Luxembourg, was in Sighisoara, Transylvanian city near the border with Wallachia.

In popular literature, Vlad is often associated with the moment of his father's entry into the Order of the Dragon, where he was received on 8 February 1431 by Emperor Sigismund, who was then also the Hungarian throne. However, in reality it is just a coincidence, but rather an attempt to invent such a coincidence. Such fictional and sometimes real coincidence in the biography of Vlad Tsepesh is full of. To treat them with great caution.

Vlad III's father, the ruler of Wallachia, Vlad II (or according to some documents, still III), being in his youth at the court of the German emperor, really joined the Order of the Dragon, we accept the order being exceptionally respectable - its members pledged to imitate Saint George evil spirits, which was then associated with the hordes of the Turks, creeping into Europe from the south-east.

It was thanks to the entry into the Order of the Dragon Father of the Impaler got the nickname Dracul (Dragon), then passed on to his son. So called not only Vlad, but also his brothers Mircho and Radu. Therefore, it is not clear whether such a name was associated with the

concept of an evil spirit, or even more the contrary. As a constant reminder of this vow, the knights wore an image of a dragon, killed by George and hanging with outstretched wings and his back broken on a cross.

But Vlad II clearly overdid it: he not only appeared with the sign of the order in front of his subjects, but also minted a dragon on his coins, even portrayed churches under construction on the walls. In the eyes of the people, he became a dragon-worshiper to the exact opposite and therefore Vlad Dracul (Dragon) gained the nickname. The author of the Russian "Tales of the Dracula Voevoda" writes directly: "in the name of Dracula in a powerful language, and ours is the Devil. Toliko evil, as if by his name, so is his life. ”

It is known that this nickname was used by foreign masters during the official titling of the Impaler, when he was the ruler of Wallachia. Tsepesh usually signed "Vlad, Vlad's son" with a list of all titles and possessions, but two letters are also known, signed "Vlad Dracula." It is perfectly clear that he bore this name with pride and did not consider it offensive.

The nickname Tsepesh (Tsepeshh, Tsepesh or Tepez - Romanian transcription allows for options), which has such an eerie meaning (in Romanian “Planter-on-count”, “Piercer”, “Pushing on a stake”), during his lifetime was not known. Most likely, it was used by the Turks before his death. Of course, in the Turkish sound - “Kazykly”. However, it seems that our hero did not object to such a name either. After the death of the king, it was translated from Turkish and was used by everyone, and under it he went down in history.

There is also a portrait, preserved in the Tyrolean castle Ambras. Of course, Dracula was hardly exactly the one depicted by a medieval artist. Contemporaries admitted that Vlad, unlike his brother Radu,

nicknamed the Beautiful, the beauty did not shine. But he was physically a very strong man, an excellent rider and swimmer.

But whether he was a pathological sadist or an uncompromising hero who did not have the right to pity, opinions diverged on this point then and continue to diverge now. First we turn to history.

The principality of Wallachia at that time was the very smallest state that, as the wise Lord Bolingbroke observed from The Glass of Water, gets no chance if its territory is immediately claimed by two big ones. In this case, the interests of the Catholic Hungary, attacking Orthodoxy, and the Muslim Porte, which claimed world domination, came together on Wallachia. Wallachia was an area sandwiched between the Turkish possessions from the south (especially after 1453, when Byzantium was crushed by the Turks) and Hungary from the north.

In addition, behind the back of little Wallachia, rich Transylvania (or Semigradiye), belonging to Hungary, was hiding, where crafts flourished, a branch of the Great Silk Road, self-governing cities founded by Saxons grew. Semigrad merchants were interested in the peaceful coexistence of Wallachia with the Turkish aggressors. Transylvania was a kind of buffer area between the Hungarian and Wallachian lands.

The peculiarity of the geopolitical position of Wallachia, as well as religious specificity (confession of Orthodoxy by the people and sovereigns) opposed it to both the Muslim Turkey and the Catholic West. This led to the extreme volatility of military policy. The rulers then marched with the Hungarians to the Turks, then passed the Turkish armies into Hungarian Transylvania. Wallachian rulers more or less successfully used the struggle of the superpowers for their own ends, gaining the support of one of them, in order to overthrow the protege of the other by another palace coup. In this way Vlad the elder (father)

ascended the throne, with the help of the Hungarian king, overthrew his cousin.

However, Turkish pressure intensified, and alliance with Hungary gave little. Vlad the elder recognized the vassal dependence of Wallachia on Porta.

Such coexistence was achieved according to the scenario traditional for that time: princes sent their sons as hostages to the court of the Turkish Sultan, whom they treated well, but in the case of insurrection in a vassal state they were immediately executed. This was the guarantor of obedience and became the sons of the Walachian ruler: Radu Krasivy and Vlad, who would earn his not so innocent nickname later.

Meanwhile, Vlad Sr. continued to maneuver between two fires, but in the end, he was killed with his son Mircho, either by the Hungarians or by his own boyars.

In addition, speaking of the horrors inextricably linked with the name of Dracula, one should remember about the state of the country and the system of power that existed there. Sovereigns were elected to the throne of the same kind, but the choice was not determined by any definite principles of the succession to the throne.

Everything was decided solely by the alignment of forces in the circles of the Wallachian boyars. Since any of the members of the dynasty could have many legal as well as side children, each of whom became a claimant to the throne (it would be someone from the boyars to put on him!), The result was a fantastic leap of rulers. The “normal” transfer of power from father to son was rare. It is clear that when the presumptuous ruler sought to consolidate his powers, terror was put on the agenda, and both the ruler's relatives and all-powerful boyars were

targeted.

Terrorist reigns, so to speak, were reigns both before and after Vlad III. Why, then, was created with him included in oral traditions and literature as surpassed all imaginable and unthinkable, went beyond the most brutal expediency? The acts of this ruler, widely replicated by written works of the XV century, and indeed freeze the blood.

The very life of Vlad (in the Romanian legends he is the voivode Tsepesh) seems to be an incessant transition from one extreme situation to another. At thirteen, he was present during the defeat of the Wallachian, Hungarian and Slavonian troops by the Turks in the battle of Varna, then the years of his stay in Turkey as a hostage issued by his father (then he learned Turkish). At seventeen, Vlad learns about the murder of boyars from the "Hungarian" party of his father and older brother. The Turks release him and put him on the throne.

From Turkish captivity, Vlad returned to his homeland with a complete pessimist, a fatalist, and with full conviction that the only driving forces of politics are force or the threat of its use.

He lasted long on the throne for the first time: the Hungarians dropped the Turkish protege and put him on the throne. Vlad was forced to seek asylum from the allies in Moldova. However, another four years pass, and during the regular (already Moldovan) distemper, the ruler of this country is dying - a supporter of Vlad, who hospitably received him in Moldova. New escape - this time to the Hungarians, the true culprits of the death of his father and brother Dracula, and four years in Transylvania, near the Wallachian border, greedy waiting in the wings.

In 1456, the conjuncture finally took shape favorably for the runaway ruler. Once again, Dracula occupies the throne with the help of the Wallachian boyars and the Hungarian king, dissatisfied with his

previous protégé. Thus began the reign of Vlad Tsepeshh in Wallachia, during which he became a hero of the legends and accomplished most of his actions, which still cause the most contradictory assessments.

In the fourth year of the reign of Dracula, he stopped paying tribute to the Turks at once and got involved in a bloody and unequal war with the Sultan's Porte. For successful waging of any war, and even more so with such a formidable rival, it was necessary to strengthen its power and restore order in its own power. The implementation of this program and proceeded Tsepeshh in his characteristic style.

The first thing that, according to the historical chronicle, was made by Vlad, having established himself in the then capital of Wallachia, the city of Targovishte, the circumstances of the death of his brother Mircho and the perpetrators were found out. He ordered his brother’s grave to be opened and made sure that he, firstly, was blinded, and secondly, turned over in a coffin, which proved the fact of the burial alive. According to the chronicle, the city just celebrated Easter and all residents dressed up in the best clothes. Seeing in this behavior the vicious hypocrisy, Tsepesh ordered to chain all residents in the chain and send them to hard labor to restore one of the castles destined to him. There they had to work until the ceremonial clothes turned into tatters.

The story sounds psychologically quite reliably, and the document in which it is contained seems credible. This is not a pamphlet written by Vlad's enemies, but a good work composed by an impassive chronicler, almost simultaneously with the events that took place.

However, let us ask ourselves a question: is it possible to believe this story described in the chronicle?

The power in Wallachia was seized by Vlad on August 22, 1456, after the massacre of a rival, whose death occurred on August 20. What

does it have to do with Easter?

More plausible is the assumption that these events refer to Vlad's first accession to the throne in 1448, immediately after the death of his brother. However, then he ruled only two autumn months - from October to early December, that is, there could be no Easter holiday either.

It turns out that we are dealing with a legend that somehow distorted reality and connected together various incidents that were originally unrelated to each other. Although, perhaps, some of the details in the chronicle correspond to reality. For example, the episode with the opening of the tomb of Mircho. Such an event could really happen, moreover, in 1448, when Tsepesh became the ruler for the first time.

What is certainly confirmed by the mentioned chronicle is the fact that the legends about the reign of Vlad Tsepesh began to take shape almost immediately after the beginning of this reign. By the way, although all these stories contained a description of the various atrocities perpetrated by Vlad, their general tone was rather enthusiastic. They all agreed that the Impaler in the shortest possible time brought order to the country and achieved its prosperity. However, the means that he used in this case cause in our time far less unanimous delight.

Since the second accession of Dracula, something unimaginable has been going on in the country. By the beginning of the reign, about 500 thousand people were under his rule (including the adjacent areas of Wallachia and controlled areas of Transylvania). For six years (1456-1462), not counting the victims of the war, over 100 thousand were destroyed by personal order of Dracula. Is it possible that a ruler, even a medieval one, lives like this for the destruction of one-fifth of his subjects? Even if in some cases it is possible to try to bring some rational basis under terror (intimidation of the opposition, toughening discipline, etc.), the numbers still raise new questions.

The origin of the legends about Dracula requires explanation. First, the activity of Vlad Tsepesh was depicted in a dozen books - first handwritten, and after the invention and printing made by Gutenberg, created mainly in Germany and in some other European countries. All of them are similar, so, apparently, they rely on some one common source. The most important sources in this case are the poem by M. Bekhaym (a German who lived at the court of the Hungarian king Matthyus Corvin in the 1460s), as well as German pamphlets distributed under the title “On one great monster” at the end of the same century.

Another group of legends collections is represented by manuscripts in Russian. They are close to each other, similar to Germanic books, but in some ways they differ from them. This is an old Russian story about Dracula, written in the 1480s, after the Russian embassy of Ivan III visited Wallachia.

There is also a third source - oral legends, which still exist in Romania, - both directly recorded by the people and processed by the famous storyteller P. Ispiresku in the XIX century. They are colorful, but as a support for the search for truth is controversial. The fabulous element that had accumulated in them for several centuries of oral transmission was too great.

The source to which the German manuscripts date back is clearly written by the enemies of the Tsepesh and depicts himself and his activities in the darkest tones. With Russian documents more difficult. Without refusing to portray Vlad's cruelties, they try to find more noble explanations for them and put accents so that the same actions look in the proposed circumstances and more logical and not so gloomy.

Some of the modern amateur researchers solved the problem of the correlation of truth and lies about Tsepeshh in a simple way. He decided:

once German sources slander Vlad, and the Russians block out, we take only the stories that are contained both there and there. These will surely correspond to the truth. However, this method was not very correct. Russian manuscripts are written, as already proved by scientists, on the basis of German. They depict the Impaler in somewhat softer tones, but if some act has been attributed to him, then it still remains attributed, with only a different explanation. So if the German source contained a lie, then it remained in Russian, only in a more moderate form.

An episode is known when, at the beginning of his reign, Dracula, having called up to 500 boyars, asked them how many rulers each of them remembers. It turned out that even the youngest remembers at least seven reigns. Dracula’s response was a peculiar attempt to put an end to the “unworthy” order, when the boyars were so much more durable than their masters: all five hundred “decorated” the stakes dug around the apartments of Dracula in his capital Targovishte. But if in this case it is not difficult to understand the feelings of the “terrorist on the throne” and his motives, then it is perhaps impossible to explain everything else.

Thanks to these testimonies, replete with overlapping episodes, the image of the lord is recreated, until selflessly loving people to put people on coke and fight for truth-justice, and it is impossible to say where the first passion passes into the second and vice versa, they are so inseparably fused. "Truth" is conceived in no other way than in the form of the relentless killing of people, and vice versa - murders are happening solely in the name of "the restoration of justice." This is achieved by the relentless sophisticated game that the “wicked” leads (according to the old Russian author) Dracula and his contemporaries: he “invents” situations in which a certain gap should arise between the ideal, absolute truth-justice and the words or actions of the subjects. Here are some examples.

A foreign merchant who came to Wallachia was robbed. He makes

a complaint to Dracula. While they are catching and putting a thief on a stake, with which “in fairness” everything is clear, a purse is thrown at the order of Dracula, in which there is more than one coin by one coin. The merchant, having discovered the surplus, immediately informs Vlad about this. He laughs: "Well done, I would not say - would you sit on a stake with rum."

Dracula discovers that there are too many beggars in the country. He convenes a penniless brotherhood, feeds his fill, and addresses the question: how could he have benefited them even more, do they not want to get rid of earthly sufferings forever? Of course, they want it, and Dracula goes to meet: the doors and windows are closed, and the house with its Christ-happy content is burned to the ground. At the same time, Dracula himself, admired by himself, notices that while thinking of doing a good deed, he committed two: he saved the country from vermin, beggars — from suffering and sorrow.

Generally distinguished by great piety and relentlessly building the church, Dracula said that his service to the Almighty was exceptionally great - not one of his predecessors sent so many great martyrs to God. When a certain monk began to convict him of tyranny, and executed those in full accord with the words of Dracula himself to call martyrs, Dracula happily replied that he was ready to add the monk himself to the martyrs. And he introduced.

Another example. Dracula cheers up, in the words of the ancient Russian author, among the "corpse". The servant bringing the dishes frowns. The question "why?" It turns out that he can not tolerate stench. "Resolution" of Dracula: "So put him higher, so that even the stench would not reach him." And the poor guy writhes on a stake of unprecedented heights.

As a rule, Dracula sought to measure the height of the stakes with

the social rank of the executed - the boyars and here turned out to be much higher than commoners, so that the “park of stakes” presented a kind of picture of an equal to the lord in the death, but of Valosch society.

Noteworthy is the "diplomacy" of Dracula. Here is a translation from Old Russian: “Dracula had such a custom: when an inexperienced ambassador from the king or the king came to him and could not answer his insidious questions, he put the ambassador to the stake, saying: “It’s not my fault that you died either your sovereign or you yourself. But do not impose guilt on me. If your sovereign, knowing that you are inexhaustible and inexperienced, sent you to me, the wise sir, then your sovereign killed you, but if you yourself decided to go, unlearned then he killed himself." A classic example is the massacre of Turkish ambassadors, who, according to the custom of their country, bowing to Dracula, did not remove their hats. Dracula praised the custom, and in order to further strengthen them in it, he nailed the caps to the heads of the ambassadors with nails.

This is not just sadism. Historians have done a lot to bring Dracula among the "great" sadists of the Renaissance. What are not Brothers Dracula and the "Neopolitan King Ferrante (...), a tireless worker, an intelligent and skilled politician" who salted and killed enemies along the cellar walls, arranging an entire gallery in his palace, which he visited at a good moment " , and dozens of his contemporaries like Vlad III?

But there is a difference: the intoxicating game of Dracula with truth-justice, in which, as is easy to see, he puts a special meaning. First, it is the test of subjects for compliance with all possible ideals - honesty, eloquence, prosperity, grace, etc. Moreover, any deviation from the ideal is punishable by painful death. Secondly, the “truth” of Dracula is a person’s vulnerability, i.e., the ability to interpret words or deeds in any

way as carrying a hidden indication of his execution, and even more desirable even in the form of execution (as is the case with the Turkish ambassadors).

Here the episode with the Hungarian ambassador mentioned in various sources is very indicative. Dracula, inviting him to the feast, points to an extremely large gold-plated stake and asks why this stake might be needed here. There is an answer that, truly, a certain outstanding husband was guilty before Dracula and he wants to distinguish the convict by the beauty of the stake. Dracula replied: “You are right; here you are, the great sovereign, the ambassador, the royal ambassador, and prepared this stake for you. ”

By the criterion of openness to death, the ambassador himself declared himself a suitable prey for Dracula. But the answer sounds: “Sire, if I have done something worthy of death, do as you wish. You are a just judge, not you will be guilty of my death, but I myself. " The Hungarian ambassador is slipping away - no, it turns out, in his previous remark the penalty for execution. Do not have time to grab his Dracula. But at the same time pleased, the desired formula sounded: it is not he who kills people, their imperfections and miscalculations kill. There is a denouement: “If I didn’t answer like that, you would have been on that stake.”

The sultan's troops arrived in time, defeated Dracula and approached Targovishte, but it was here that the difficult-to-form happened - thousands of human victims, as it were, bought out the life of Tsepesh. Seeing the forest of Kolov and the Dead in front of the walls of his capital, the Sultan exclaimed: “What can we do with this man?” And, having lost his enthusiasm in a strange way, he withdrew to Turkey with the main forces.

Nevertheless, the defection of the Impaler was complete. Dracula,

crammed by the remaining Turkish troops, fled. But Europe, which in the days of victories, glorified him as a great Christian commander who took revenge for Constantinople, defiled by the Turks, and “did not notice” his bloody atrocities, rejected Dracula. The Hungarian king imprisoned him. There Tsepesh spent 12 years.

And here again, luck returned to him. The Hungarian king suggested that Tsepesh go to Catholicism. Dracula renounces Orthodoxy. It should marry the sister of King Matthew Corvinus, and the sadist, whom the pamphlets composed in Hungary have just denounced, is becoming a desirable candidate for the Hungarians to the Wallachian throne. In 1476, he was again on the throne, overthrowing his brother Radu II, who adheres to the Turkish orientation. Again war breaks out with the Turks.

Reports about how exactly Tsepesh died were contradictory, according to one of them, Vlad had a Turkish servant — an agent implanted by the sultan who enjoyed the full confidence of the king and accompanied him everywhere. He also killed the Impaler, getting close to him from the back and cutting off the head, which the devotees brought to the Lord.

This version is unlikely. The guard was too cautious and suspicious to trust the Turk (someone who, and he knew the Turks addiction to political games), and the only reason he could deal with him was to get some information about the enemy. In this case, it is unlikely that the “language” would be allowed to be armed without supervision near the commander.

The fact that Vlad’s head was taken to Turkey is reported in at least three European sources. One of them - the chronicle of Antonio Bonfini, the Italian historian and chronicler at the court of Matius Corvina, apparently, is the basis for other reports. Turkish sources say nothing

about this.

The death of Vlad in the Cyril-Belozersk manuscript is described in great detail. According to this version, Vlad separated from his troops and single-handedly climbed a hill, “to enjoy the spectacle of his fighters, successfully chopping the Turks” (in general, the commander has more serious reasons to look at the battlefield from a high place). Then a detachment of Wallachian fighters stumbled upon him, who took him for a Turk, because, as usual, he was dressed in Turkish during the battle. Already pierced with a spear, he managed to slaughter five of the attackers, but there were many more of them, and Vlad was stabbed with "many spears." Having found the dead body of the “erroneously” killed commander, the Vlad cut off his head and sent him to the sultan, so that he could rejoice.

Perhaps, gradually, the memory of the hard-hearted seeker of justice - Vlad Dracula - would change in the memory of ordinary people, becoming the property of historians. But the figure of the Wallachian ruler interested the English writer Bram Stoker, and at the end of the XIX century his famous novel about the vampire Count Dracula appeared.

Very often in the critical and historiographic literature there is a statement: the monster, invented by Stoker, has practically nothing in common with the historical Dracula. Particular emphasis is placed on the fact that in the Romanian tradition there are no indications of the transformation of Dracula into a vampire, not to mention the amazing changes that the biography of the real Dracula undergoes in the novel.

The stoker of the wallah (Romanian) turns his hero into a Transylvanian Hungarian-Skeler. You can also point to other deviations of the writer from historical truth. So, he places Dracula’s castle in the Transylvanian Borgo Aisle. Here, in fact, there was a castle that Vlad

Tsepesh was supposed to visit, but the real residence of the ruler was on the Arges River, near the borders of Transylvania and Wallachia. Most eagerly critics point out that Dracula in Stoker is completely different from Vlad Tsepesh in the Romanian folklore tradition. Is it so? Is there really nothing in common between the moral Dracula, the Sadistic Dracula and the Stoker vampire?

It is known that Stoker made his hero a vampire, having misunderstood one word in the German pamphlet against Tsepesh, meaning in fact not a vampire, but a berserk. So called the ecstatic ancient Germanic warriors, who in the heat of battle imagined themselves as wolves, tormenting their enemies. But after all, Stoker Dracula remains a berserk. Boasting the glory of the ancestors, the count says that among them were the greatest berserkers of the era of the migration of nations. Where did the vampire come from?

It was assumed that this motive could be born from another line of the pamphlet, in which Dracula was compared with a flea sucking the blood of his victim. In addition, it was pointed out that the image of the madman Renfield, who deified Dracula and was obsessed with absorbing various lives, in particular eating birds alive, was inspired by the image of Dracula, tormenting birds and mice in prison.

As for Romanian folklore, the situation is far from being so simple. Indeed, the warrior Vlad III acquires heroic traits in him. Moreover, the very name of Dracula, that is, the Son of the Dragon, or the Son of the Devil, is decisively eliminated from Romanian folklore, where he is the Water (voivode) Tsepeshh. However, some researchers note that in the biography of Dracula there is undoubtedly one episode, which could well be the reason for the appearance of the legend about his becoming a vampire - this is apostasy from Orthodoxy, a conversion to Catholicism, which according to popular belief is often punished with a vampirism curse.

The episode which is in one of the legends is remarkable: all evil spirits rise with the Turks against the Water of the Tsepesh. Here and the vampires - they gather on Mount Ratezat, which lies on the border of Romania and Wallachia, not far from the historic castle of Dracula.

With this observation, researchers who have devoted a lot of time to “draculovology” should also be compared with the survey of the peasants themselves, who now live in the neighborhood of this castle. The results were unexpected. The peasants, of course, honor the Impaler as a great hero, many even claim that their ancestors fought under his banners, but at the same time the castle was covered with strange glory. They are afraid to walk past him at night, and when folklorists asked to show him the way, they were told: “Forbidden”.

And among the peasants there is a belief: Dracula neither did not die at all, nor has the amazing ability to revive and come to the living at any moment. This legend is also a heroic one: The treadmill will come and be a defender of Romania from a foreign invasion, as it was in the XV century.

Golden arrows of Batu

During the archaeological excavations in the Penza region, traces of an unknown battle dating back to the 13th century and the ruins of a fortress dating back to the same time were found. In the chronicles there is not a single mention of the battle in these places. Found an incredible amount of weapons, jewelry, armor and various utensils. How did it happen that for more than 800 years such historical treasures lay untouched in the ground, and the warriors were not buried?

In August 1227, the great conqueror Chinhyskhan died. But with

his death, aggressive raids on other countries did not stop. Genghis Khan had many successors, but his grandson Baty was the most fortunate. He went with his horde to the Great Western campaign, which in historical chronicles is called - the invasion of Batu.

Baty understood perfectly well that the victory over the Polovtsian and Russian troops in 1223 (the Battle of Kalka) does not mean the complete submission of Kievan Rus and the Polovtsy. It was necessary to confirm their right to force, and to replenish their treasuries with new wealth. The only thing that restrained Batu from the immediate march was the war with the state of the Tang Xia-Xia and the Jurchen Kin empire.

After the main fortresses of the enemies were taken, Batu began to prepare for the great Western campaign. Baty gathered in 1235 the congress of nobility (kurultai), at which it was decided to march to the west. The commander was appointed an experienced military leader from the former environment of Genghis Khan - Subedei Bagatur, who had previously taken part in the Battle of Kalka.

The total number of troops was small - only 40 thousand soldiers. This was due to the fact that the empire needed warriors to maintain order in the already occupied territories: in China there were 60 thousand, in Central Asia served 40 thousand soldiers, whose main duty was to pacify the Muslims. For the campaign, an urgent mobilization was carried out, taking the eldest son from each family.

For each warrior there were three horses (combat, sled and pack), siege weapons and numerous carts moved behind the soldiers. As further events confirmed, the number of people and horses were optimal for a long hike across the steppes, whose resources are not unlimited and fed, and only such a number of people and animals could not die from hunger.

In this regard, we can recall the famous march in 1941 in the rear of the German corps of the Russian corps under the command of General Dovator. The raid passed through forests and the forest could not feed such a large number of people gathered in one place: people were hungry and lack of water.

It must be admitted that the experienced warriors of Genghis Khan turned out to be much more experienced in organizing long campaigns than the famous commander of the Red Army. Therefore, the 40-thousand army of the Mongols was the most optimal by the number of soldiers.

The time for the invasion of Subedei-Bagatur and Batu was chosen very well: the winter began, and the snow could replace the people and horses with water. The troops of the Mongolian conquerors crossed Mongolia, passed the mountains and the Kazakh steppes, the Usyurt plateau, and finally reached the Volga. Having passed 5 thousand kilometers of bagatura in the autumn of 1236, they were on the banks of the great river, but there they could not take a break from the difficult march. Thirst for revenge on the Volga Bulgars, who in 1223 "dared" to defeat the army Subedey-Bagatura provoked them to an immediate assault on the fortified city of Bulgar. The Mongols destroyed it and forced the surviving inhabitants to bow their heads in front of Batu. Other Volga peoples, the Bashkirs and Burtases, also submitted to the invaders.

Baty with his army brought the Volga peoples sorrow and tears, destroyed everything that was created for centuries. Emboldened, the Mongolian conquerors moved towards the Russian lands. Part of the troops of the Mongol aggressors went to the south under the leadership of the grandson of Genghis Khan Mongke Khan, to defeat the Polovtsian Khan Kotyan. Baty himself himself moved with another part of the army

towards Ryazan. At this time in Russia, there was always a war between various principalities, which considered themselves independent and did not submit to the Kiev prince. It should be noted that this period of feudal fragmentation was characteristic not only for Russia, but also for the whole of Europe.

Once on the border of the Ryazan principality, Baty sent parliamentarians demanding to provide him with horses and food for the troops. Prince Yury, who ruled the Ryazan lands, refused and decided to fight the enemy. Soldiers from Murom came to his aid. But when the Mongol lava moved on the defenders of the city, the Russian squad wavered and hid behind the walls of Ryazan. The city was not ready for a serious siege and lasted only 6 days. The princely family died, the city was plundered and destroyed.

While the Mongols celebrated their victory over Ryazan, Prince Vladimir of Yuri Vsevolodovich assembled a squad, which included Chernigov, Novgorod, and the remaining Ryazan regiments.

Russian troops met the Mongols in January 1238 near Kolomna. For three days the Russians fought with the Mongol invaders. Vladimir voevoda Yeremey Glebovich died. Prince Vsevolod led the remnants of the army to Vladimir, where he had to stand before the strict court of his father, Yuri Vsevolodovich.

The following fell under the pressure of the Mongolian conquerors Kolomna and Moscow. Further, the horde moved to the city of Vladimir. Prince Vladimirsky tried to confront the enemy with small forces. But the city was able to hold out only 8 days. All the princely family and most of the inhabitants perished. The city itself invaders destroyed and burned.

The next target of the Mongols was Torzhok. His defenders until

the last moment hoped to get help from Novgorod. But the Novgorodians discussed the situation at the veche too long and were late with their help: Torzhok fell before the conquerors.

Although the Mongols marched victoriously on the land of Rus, they did not go to Novgorod, but turned south. A possible reason for such a move was the spring thaw that had begun and the weariness of the Batu warriors.

The first city, which gave a fitting rebuff to the horde of Batu, was the Russian city of Kozelsk. The Mongols surrounded the city and made several attempts to storm Kozelsk. Long and difficult for seven weeks, the residents restrained the attacks of the Mongols, while repeatedly making successful sorties, causing significant damage to the enemy.

Only after the additional forces of the Mongols approached the city, and all the men of the soldiers perished, and on the walls of the city were replaced by children and women, the aggressors seized the city. Angry warriors of Batu destroyed all the surviving residents of the city. Although the Mongols won, but the defense of Kozelsk undermined the forces of the horde of Batu, and the Mongols quickly marched back to the Volga. Here they rested and filled up their ranks with human resources, putting the Rus and Bulgars in line. They again moved west on the second trip.

I must say that the Russian cities tried to offer serious resistance to the invaders. Some city leaders preferred not to fight with them, but to buy off. For example, Volyn and Uglich supplied the invaders with food and horses - for this Batu walked around these cities.

The second campaign on the Russian cities for the Mongols was less successful, because they had to go along the lands of the Russians that had already been ravaged by them. This time they already reached

the Dnieper, their main goal was Kiev. At that time, Kiev, torn by internal strife, did not even have a prince who could lead the defense of the city. As a result of a two-month siege, the city fell before the army of Batu. The path to Poland and Hungary was open for the army of Batu.

The Batu horde had to split up: a part of the Mongolian troops, led by the grandson of Genghis Khan Baidar, moved to the Polish city of Lublin. There they sent their negotiators to the Poles, but they killed the ambassadors. Then the Mongols took the city by storm, and then came to Krakow, where the Polish troops were completely defeated, trying to stop them. The Germans came to the aid of the Poles, but the combined Polish-German army was also defeated by the warriors of the Tammen Baidar.

The Germans were lucky, Baidar did not go to their lands - Batu ordered him to go south and join his army in Hungary. There the decisive battle of the Mongols with the 40-thousand army of the Hungarian king Bela IV took place. And although the army of the Hungarian king outnumbered the Mongol horde, the Europeans were not familiar with the military tactics of the eastern conquerors. The Hungarian king did not doubt victory, and a small Mongol detachment, depicting flight from his troops, lured the Hungarian army to the Chaillot River. At night, the Mongols surrounded the Hungarian camp, and in the morning they fired at the Hungarians from stone-throwers, making panic in the ranks of King Bela IV. The Mongols broke into the camp, and a fierce felling began.

The Hungarians did not stand the onslaught of the warriors of Batu and ran. On the shoulders of these fugitives, the Mongols broke into the city of Pest. The Hungarian king fled to Austria, taking with him the entire state treasury. Hungary was ruled by the Mongols. During 1241, the Mongolian conquerors, capturing the territory of the Danube cities, came to the Adriatic Sea. Now their target was the Holy Roman Empire.

The army of Batu defeated the combined Austrian-Czech army. But the forces of the Mongolian troops were not unlimited; exhausting battles weakened the army of Batu. In March 1242, the Mongolian conquerors turned their horses to the east — Batu's campaign in Europe was over. Returning to the Volga, Batu Khan founded his headquarters - the city of Saray (80 km from present-day Astrakhan). In 1256, the population of this city was already 75 thousand people. The city of Saray existed until the end of the 15th century.

Undoubtedly, the Batu campaign was a grand military-political event. Mongolian warriors have traveled quite a difficult way from the Onon River to the shores of the Adriatic Sea. Despite the large number of military clashes, it would still be wrong to call this campaign aggressive, most likely it was a common, for a nomadic tribe, a raid: they attacked cities, robbed, killed, but did not tribute anyone.

The exceptions were Chernihiv and Kiev principalities. There, the Mongol invaders collected taxes. But the population quickly found a way out of this situation - there was a massive resettlement of people to the north of these principalities. People mastered new lands for themselves, settling Tver, Murom, Ryazan, Vladimir, Moscow, Kolomna. After Batu passed here, destroying and burning out all life, these lands gradually began to revive and thus the original Russian traditions moved to the new center of Russia.

The finding in the Penza region, dating back to the time of the western expedition of Batu, suggests that not all the events of those years are known to modern researchers and scientists. Perhaps the death of the Mongols, was still connected with a serious military confrontation, in which the Russians protected their lands from the invasion of a wild tribe of the Mongols. In any case, the historical mystery of the find in the Penza region has not yet been solved.

Mysteries of the field the Kulikovo

Certainly to most readers the title of this article may seem paradoxical. What are the mysteries in the Battle of Kulikovo? After all, everything has long been clearly and explicitly written in school and university textbooks, in respectable monographs on the history of military art, where even battle-map charts are given.

HOW MUCH AND WHY?

Alas, in fact, only one thing is authentically known - on September 8, 1380, the Moscow Prince Dmitry Ivanovich won a military victory. And that's all. Although the modern researcher Shavyrin rightly remarked: "With books devoted to the Battle of Kulikovo, you can lay out the entire field in which it occurred." However, he also indicates that "almost everything written goes back to three primary sources: a short chronicle story, the poetic“ Zadonshchina ”and the rhetorical“ Legend of Mamayev’s Battle ”.

So, the first riddle. Mamay goes to war in Russia. But is his army large? Academician Boris Rybakov claimed that more than 300 thousand people. His senior comrade, full member of the USSR Academy of Sciences Mikhail Tikhomirov believed that 100-150 thousand. Historians Skrynnikov and Kuchkin are limited to 40-60 thousand. The minimum number - 36 thousand - gives their colleague Kirpichnikov.

Now the second question: what is the purpose of the trip? The overwhelming majority of Tsarist-Soviet-democratic historians are unequivocally responsible: Mamai de wanted to become the second Batu, punish the Grand Duke of Moscow Dmitry Ivanovich for many years of non-payment of tribute, exterminate the Russian princes and replace them with Khan Baskaks, etc.

But where did Mamaia have the strength for such a grand event, which neither Berke, nor Tokhta, nor Uzbek, nor other rulers of the Golden Horde decided? But in 1380, Mamai controlled at best only half of this feudal state, while the other half was controlled by his rival Tokhtamysh. And he was Chingizid (that is, a direct descendant of Genghis Khan) and a real Khan, and temnik Mamai - an impostor who seized the throne.

The elementary logic suggests that in such a situation, Mom should have first dealt with his rival in the Golden Horde, and only then deal with Russian affairs.

Yes, and the Grand Duke Dmitry Ivanovich stopped paying tribute, not because he became so strong, but because of "mumble in the Horde," when it was simply not clear who would pay and who would not. The rebellious temnik would have prevailed in the Horde internecine strife, and in a few weeks would have received from Moscow everything that was due. By the way, this happened immediately after the Kulikov battle, only Dmitri paid off in full with gold and silver with Tokhtamysh.

Some researchers claim that de Mamai intended to feed his army in Russia, endow it with booty, hire new soldiers for the stolen money and then hit on Tokhtamysh. But the temny was an experienced commander and, of course, perfectly remembered the crushing defeat that the Horde army suffered in the battle of Voge in August 1378. Therefore, he hardly doubted that he would have to fight seriously with the Russians, that the success of the campaign was not guaranteed, even if all available forces were brought to him.

LACKLESS OPPONENT

With the army of the Moscow prince everything is relatively clear.

He managed to gather not only his army, but also the soldiers of the Allied princes - Rostov, Yaroslavl, Belozero and Starodub. The Lithuanian princes, Andrey and Dmitry Olgerdovich, arrived to him with their retinues. But participation in the battle of the Tver squad, as is sometimes stated, is more than doubtful.

Who was the enemy of the Moscow prince, is still unknown. The Russian chronicler asserted that Mamai moved to Russia "with all the power of Tatars and Polovtsians, and also ratized the besermen, and Armeni and fryazi, Cherkasy and Yasy and Buty."

The historian Yegorov comments on it in the following way: “Who in this list is understood as besomemen is difficult to say, because in the annals this term refers to Muslims in general. However, it is possible that the chronicle indication may refer to Muslim detachments recruited in Azerbaijan, whose ties to the Golden Horde they had a long-standing character. A similar detachment of mercenaries was invited from Armenia.About the Armenian feudal lords, mercenaries were apparently quite common, which confirms that the Seljuks had a mercenary army from the Armenians.

Under the name of the chronicles of the fryaz usually appear teams of the Italian city-colonies of the southern coast of Crimea and Tana at the mouth of the Don ".

This last indication of the chronicle allowed the vengeful imagination of our historians and fiction writers to be played with might and main. From the book into the book wanders "black Genoese infantry", going thick phalanx on the Kulikov field. However, in 1380 the Genoese colonies in the Black Sea were in a state of war with Mamai. Theoretically, the Venetians could have been on the Kulikovo Field. But there were only a few hundred of them in the city of Tana-Azana (Azov), along with their wives and children. And even the

Genoese, even if they were in alliance with Mamai, could hardly send him a few dozen people to help him.

In turn, Armenian scholars have long ago declared: since no documents were found for recruiting for Mamai in Armenia, our ancestors did not fight on the Kulikovo field. But ... If any of them turned out to be on the Don, then they were "from the Armenian community in the Bulgar".

However, other Tatar historians for some time also argue that, they say, the forefathers of the modern titular nation of Tatarstan did not fight on the Kulikovo field. There is, however, another point of view. Thus, Professor Miftakhov, referring to the "Code of Bulgarian Chronicles," writes that the Kazan Emir Azan sent to Mamai Prince (sardar) Saban with five thousand horsemen. “During the farewell with Saban Saban, the emir Azan said:“ Let it be better for you to die than the entire state. ”After that, the Bulgarian detachment set off on its way to join the temnik troops. They met at the end of August 1380“ on the ruins of the old fortress of Halek ” .

It is said in the Bulgarian chronicles and on ... the artillery of Mamai. Namely: at his tent there were three cannons, which were controlled by a master named Rail. However, the Russian horsemen flew so swiftly that the servants did not have time to open fire, and Rail himself was taken prisoner.

Yury Loshchits, the author of a 295-page book about Dmitry Donskoy, writes: “The battle of September 8, 1380 was not a battle of nations. It was a battle of the sons of the Russian people with that cosmopolitan slave or mercenary rabble who had no right to speak on behalf of any of - neighbors of Russia ".

Of course, this is a very convenient wording. But aren't there too

many "scum" in the steppes between the Don and the Volga? After all, it could make up the largest - a large enough gang, for the sake of the destruction of which there was hardly a need to collect the forces of almost all of Russia.

WHERE TO BE A PRINCE?

The role of Dmitry of Moscow in the Kulikovo battle is very strange. In “The Tale of Mamayev's Battle”, the main role in the battle is not assigned to Dmitry, but to his cousin Vladimir Andreevich Serpukhovsky. But something else is not clear - according to all three sources, the grand duke actually refused to control the troops.

Dmitriy allegedly even before the battle, "tsaristly took the liberty of himself," and laid it on his favorite boyar Mikhail Andreevich Brenk, to whom he also handed over his horse. And he commanded in addition his red ("black") banner "to carry over him [Brenkom]."

No Russian prince behaved this way. On the contrary, the authority of princely power in Russia in the 9th and 15th centuries was so great that often the warriors did not want to go to war without a prince. Therefore, if there was no adult prince, the prince was taken to the march. Thus, the three-year-old Prince Svyatoslav Igorevich was put on a horse and ordered to throw a small spear. The spear fell at the feet of the horse, and it was the signal for the beginning of the battle. What to remember the tenth century, Dmitri himself at the beginning of his reign, at 10-15 years old, the Moscow boyars repeatedly marched.

Let's try to imagine the technique of changing the appearance of the prince. This is not the year 1941, when the colonel or the general pulled off his tunic and put on his private tunic. Expensive and durable armor perfectly fit the figure of a warrior. It was inconvenient and risky to wear someone else's armor without a proper fit or even rework.

Finally, the prince's horse was worth a fortune. He wore the prince for years and rescued in battles. It was possible to mount a foreign horse, in case of defeat, to escape from the battlefield, but it was simply dangerous to fight on another horse.

So, the version about dressing, as well as about the tree cut, under which turned out to be Dmitry Ivanovich, who did not have a single scratch, we will have to put aside. Analyzing the sources of the XIV-XV centuries, we can only conclude that Dmitry Donskoy did not directly participate in the battle. But why, apparently, we will never know.

Chain of confusion

No less interesting is the question of where the famous and bloody slash occurred. According to the drawings (maps) of the XVIII-XIX centuries, Kulikovo Field was a steppe "glade" stretching 100 km across the south of the present Tula region from west to east (from the upper reaches of the Snezhedi river to the Don) and 20-25 km from the north to south (from the headwaters of Upa to the headwaters of Zushi).

The reader will ask, what about the monument to the Russian soldiers standing on the Kulikovo field? Everything is very simple.

At the beginning of the 19th century there lived a nobleman Nechaev — the director of the schools of the Tula province, a freemason, a Decembrist, a member of the Union of Welfare, a close friend of Ryleev. Like all Decembrists, he showed great interest in the struggle of the Russian people against the Horde.

In June 1820, the Tula governor Vasilyev raised the question of the construction of a monument, "marking the place where Russia was liberated and glorified in 1380."

Needless to say, the place of the battle was found in the land of the rich landowner Nechaev. In 1821, Nechaev wrote in the magazine “Vestnik Evropy”: “The Kulikovo Field, according to historical legends, was between the Nepredvoyu, Don and Mechei rivers. Its northern part, adjacent to the first two, still retains the ancient name between the inhabitants. Further, Nechaev points to the toponyms preserved "in this land" - the village of Kulikovka, the village of Kulikovo, the Kulikovsky ravine, and others. and folding. Before the plow of a farmer, he tore off the bones of man. " But the author considered “the strongest evidence” (note this) of his opinion to be “the position of the Green Oak Forest, where the ambush that decided the bloody Kulikovo battle was hidden”. According to Nechaev, the remnants of the oak trees and now exist in the cottages of the village of Rozhdestin, or Monastyrschiny, "lying on the very mouth of the Nepryadva."

Alas, all of Nechaev’s arguments do not stand up to elementary criticism. For example, why is "Green Oakwood" a proper name? And how many in the vast territory of the Kulikov field are such oak forests?

It should be noted that in repelling the raids of the Crimean Tatars throughout the XVI century, dozens of battles and skirmishes took place in the Kulikovo field. Nevertheless, relatively few weapons were found on the Kulikovo Field (in its broad sense). Moreover, the finds were almost evenly distributed both geographically and chronologically, from the 11th to the 17th century. (The iron cores, lead bullets and flint pistol cannot belong to the year 1380!) The most surprising thing is that on the Kulikovo field, and in a narrow, and in a broad sense, group warrior burials were not found.

In the course of the great battle, which ended in the complete defeat of the rati Mamaia, inevitably there should be hundreds, and even thousands of prisoners. In the Russian chronicles since the 10th century, their number is always given, the most notable captives are called by

their names. But in this case, all our sources of the XIV-XV centuries are silent about them, and even modern historians and fiction writers have passed this curious fact. So where did the Tatar prisoners go?

Here the following scheme seems to me the most probable. The army of Dmitry Ivanovich without fights and without interference passed to the battlefield through the lands of the Ryazan principality. This could be done only with the consent of Oleg Ryazan. Apparently, between Oleg and Dmitry, there was some kind of agreement on joint actions against Mamai. And having complied with the terms of the agreement, Prince Oleg was counting on a part of the military spoils. But Dmitry did not want to share - after all, Oleg did not fight directly on the Kulikovo Field. Denying Oleg his legal requirements, Dmitry Ivanovich hastily leaves for Moscow. He seeks to appear in the city immediately after the news of the great victory, before Moscow learns about the huge losses. And that’s why the carts coming from the Kulikovo field are abandoned to the mercy of fate. And thrown as a pesky petitioner pleading for justice, Oleg.

And Oleg, too, had to feed his warriors and restore the once again devastated principality. And he ordered to rob Moscow transports going through his land and take away the field taken on Kulikovo Field ...

The fact of the robbery of the Russian army is indirectly confirmed by the news of German chronicles of the late 14th - early 15th century, which say that the Lithuanians attacked the Russians and took away all their booty. Considering that for German chroniclers there was no clear separation of Russia and Lithuania, under the name "Lithuanians" they could have in mind both the army of Prince Yagailo and Oleg Ivanovich.

So in a question with prisoners there can be only two options. Or the Tatars on the Kulikovo Field did not panic fled from the battlefield, but retreated in relative order, or the prisoners were repulsed by the

Ryazan or Lithuanians, and later released for ransom. Both options did not suit either the chroniclers of the XIV-XV centuries, or the historians of the XIX-XX centuries, and they simply omitted the issue with the prisoners.

By the way, the scheme that has existed for already two centuries - Dmitry Donskoy broke the back of the Golden Horde, and Oleg Ryazansky is a scoundrel and a traitor - to put it mildly, far from reality. Could a state with a "broken ridge" force Russia to pay tribute for another 100 years? Curious moment. Dmitry Donskoy was canonized by the Russian Orthodox Church in June 1988, and Oleg Ryazansky became a saint almost immediately after his death on June 5, 1402. And Oleg's canonization took place “from below”, and not at the direction of the authorities, fortunately, in the 15th century, the Ryazan princes had no time for him.

In this article, only a part of the numerous mysteries of the Kulikov field is indicated. To solve them, it will take a lot of work historians and archaeologists. Although, unfortunately, the majority is unlikely to find reliable answers.

Executions of the dead

Reprisals after death were usually honored by people who were very powerful in life. So, Pope Stephen VI, who ascended the papal throne in 896, "distinguished himself" by organizing a trial of the previous pontiff Formosa.

Formosa’s corpse was dug out of the grave, dressed in papal robes, and put in the dock. At the end of the trial, they accused of violating the church law of the dead Formosa.

He was removed from the papal clothes, cut off his three fingers of his right hand, with which he blessed the people. Then the maimed Formosa corpse was thrown into the Tiber.

This blasphemy did not leave indifferent the inhabitants of Rome. Soon, Stephen VI was imprisoned and strangled there.

Suiciders - on the gallows

Oxford scholar and philosopher John Wycliffe, during his lifetime, apparently so angered the clergy with his demands to conduct the reformation of the Roman Catholic Church, that he was remembered by him 40 years after his death. On May 4, 1415, the Cathedral of Constance decided:

“The Holy Council declares, decides and passes judgment on John Wycliffe as a notorious heretic who died established in his heresy. The cathedral curses him and condemns the memories of him. The cathedral also decides and prescribes that its body and bones, if they can be recognized among the bodies of other faithful people, be removed from the ground and thrown away from church cemeteries in accordance with established canons and laws. ”

It is difficult to even imagine what the remains of Wycliffe looked like when they had lain for four decades in the ground when they were betrayed by execution, but only bones are depicted on medieval engravings.

Attitude towards suicides in the Middle Ages was extremely negative. Society and the church unequivocally expressed their attitude towards those who dared take their own lives. Not only were they not allowed to be buried in the common cemetery, they were sometimes punished after death.

This happened, for example, with Thomas Dobby, a resident of Edinburgh, who was drowned in a quarry near Holyrood Abbey on February 20, 1598. When his body was removed from the water, they did not immediately bury him, but were dragged to court. There the dead man was tortured.

And, apparently, he confessed that he had not just drowned, but had drowned at the instigation of the devil. In the medieval dungeons, it seems, even the dead confessed. As a result, the judges sentenced Thomas Dobby to be hanged. The next day, his body was dragged through the city and hoisted on the gallows.

Combined massacres

Executions of the dead were common in many European countries. A classic example is the public execution in England of the dead Oliver Cromwell. His body, buried in the chapel of Henry VII of Westminster Abbey, was taken from the grave and publicly beheaded. Then he put his head on the roof of Westminster Hall, and his body was hanged.

It is curious that when Cromwell was at the zenith of glory and triumphantly drove into London, he, following the precepts of the Romans, "remembered death." The officer of the suite admired that the protector meets so many people. "If I were taken to the scaffold," Cromwell replied, "there would be no less onlookers."

So it happened. The massacre of the dead Cromwell gathered a huge crowd. Together with him, the death penalty betrayed his three departed comrades-in-arms: Henry Ayrton, Thomas Pride, and John Bradshaw. They were also pulled out of the graves, tried, executed, and then the remains were hung on chains in Tyburn.

The tradition of violence against the dead existed in England for quite a long time. So, at the beginning of the XIX century, a certain John Williams was considered the main villain in England. The whole country was discussing his cruelty and power after him, in December 1811; he beat two families to death in the Ratcliffe Highway in the East End with a carpenter's hammer.

For this mallet it was soon calculated. The inhabitants of London literally counted the days before his public execution to admire her. However, the villain Williams deceived the people's aspirations and on the eve of his execution hanged himself in a prison cell.

To avoid popular unrest, the authorities decided not to cancel the execution. With a large crowd of people in the square in front of the New Gate prison, the dead Williams was first hanged, then lowered onto the scaffold, taken out of the loop and drove into his heart an aspen stake. And to ensure that this villain will never be resurrected, his body was burned.

Often in England people were sentenced to combined execution. First they were hanged, and then they also mocked their dead bodies. For example, in the middle of the 15th century, priest Roger Bolinbrok was first hanged, then beheaded, and then quartered, for participating in the plot of the Duchess of Gloucester. Beheading the corpses hanged in England continued in the XIX century.

For example, in 1817, the rebel trinity, known as Pentrich Martyers, was executed in this way. They were first hanged, and then the executioner, in turn, cut off the corpses of the head and raised it up with the words: “Behold the head of the traitor!” This was the last use case for the execution of an ax in Britain.

Unlike England, in France, the dead rulers were not executed, but

there they brutally murdered the departed killer of the king. On August 1, 1589, a 22-year-old Dominican monk, Jacques Clement, plunged a poisoned dagger into the stomach of King Henry III of France in the outskirts of Paris Saint Cloud.

Clement was convinced that the killing of the king would go unpunished for him, because immediately after the attempt he would become invisible by the will of God, and thus avoid punishment.

It is clear that Clement did not become invisible after this crime, but he became dead. The servants of the king immediately stabbed him.

The next day, August 2, 1589, a trial was held ... over the monk's corpse. He was pronounced the verdict: "Break four bodies of the aforementioned Clement into four parts, then burn them, and pour the ashes into the river in order to completely destroy all memory of him." On the same day the sentence was carried out.

Death of the False Dmitry

In Russia, the dead were not officially executed, but sometimes subjected to lynching. For example, at the beginning of the 17th century, the people subjected the dead body of the impostor Grishka Otrepiev, who remained in history as the king False Dmitry I.

A stall was brought from the malls and the False Dmitry’s corpse was hoisted onto it. Then the nobles left the Kremlin and whipped the dead body with a whip, then took the mask prepared for the festive masquerade, and threw False Dmitry on the open belly, and put a pipe in his mouth.

But this did not calm down. Some time after the burial of False Dmitry, his body was dug out of a pit, burned, and the ashes were loaded

into cannon and fired.

Another famous massacre of the corpse was the death penalty of the marching ataman of the Don Cossacks Kondraty Bulavin. He raised a rebellion after Prince Yuri Dolgoruky, under the Tsar's decree, in eight Cossack villages grabbed and sent up to 3,000 runaway serfs to his former place of residence.

This caused outrage among the Cossacks. And then this indignation was headed by Stepan Bulavin. At night, he attacked Prince Dolgoruky, killed him and all the officers and soldiers who were with him and about a thousand people.

On July 7, 1708, loyal to the tsar, the Cossacks surrounded the house, where Bulavin took refuge with his closest associates, and decided to set it on fire. Bulavin, seeing that the house was laid with reeds, decided not to wait for his death in the fire and shot himself with a pistol. Later in Azov his body was put to death, his head was cut off, and then hanged. The priests refused to bury the body of the rebel in the local cemetery.

Now clergymen protect the dead. So, a few kilometers south of the Polish city of Gdansk, a crypt was carved in the mountainside, where the glorious knight Kazimir Pizalusky, who participated in the First Crusade, rests.

At home, he was more famous for planting faith in Christ among the pagan tribes with fire and sword. Pan Casimir brutally tortured prisoners until they began to believe in Jesus. In one of the battles with the pagans, he fell on the battlefield. The enemies dragged his body to their camp and there they chopped it into pieces and burned it.

Later, comrades gathered his remains and immured in a mountain

crypt. Archaeologists have long been eager to get into the last refuge of the knight, and even announced a reward of 25 thousand dollars to anyone who will help them in this.

Upon learning of their intentions, Pope Urban II came to Poland and announced that those who dare to disturb Kazimir Pizaluski's peace are awaited terrible punishment on earth and hellish agony in the afterlife. While the papal threat protects the crypt of the knight from uninvited guests.

Forbidden Treasures of the Vishnu Temple

At the beginning of the 18th century, the Principality of Travancore was formed in the southwest of the Indian subcontinent. For centuries, lively trade routes passed through its territory. European traders of pepper, clove and cinnamon appeared here in the 16th century, after the caravels of the Portuguese Vasco da Gama came here in 1498.

Foreign and Indian merchants, who came to Travancore for spices and other goods, usually left generous offerings to the god Vishnu in order to receive blessings for successful trade from higher authorities and at the same time enlist the favor of local authorities. In addition to donations, the temple stored gold received from European merchants in payment for spices.

In 1731, one of the most powerful rulers of Travancore, Raja Marthand Varma (he reigned in 1729–1758), in the capital city of Trivandrum (now called Thiruvananthapuram, the capital of the present Indian state of Kerala), built the magnificent temple Padmanabhaswami.

Actually, one of the 108 monasteries of Vishnu has been here since the III century BC. e., and in the XVI century, the temple complex is

located. The raja built the gopuram at the same place - the main seven-row tower of the temple, 30.5 m high. It is decorated with many statues and sculptures, each of which can be considered a real architectural masterpiece.

Inside the temple leads a long corridor with a colonnade consisting of 365 beautiful granite columns. Their surface is completely covered with carvings, which is an example of the true skill of ancient sculptors.

The main hall of the temple building is decorated with frescoes depicting various mystical stories, and is designed to store the main shrine: a unique statue of Padmanabhaswami - Vishnu forms, residing in the pose of Anananthasayan, that is, in eternal mystical dream.

The sculptural embodiment of the supreme god is reclined on the giant Ananta Sheshe, the king of all the naked, on a giant thousand-headed serpent. From the navel of Vishnu, a lotus grows with Brahma sitting on it. The left hand of the statue is located above the stone-lingam, which is considered the most important form and image of Shiva. His wives sit next to them: the earth goddess Bhudevi and the goddess of prosperity Sridevi.

The 5.5 m tall statue was built from 10,008 Shalagramashil (sacred stones) and covered with gold and precious stones. It can be seen from the three gates of the temple - through one can see the foot, through the other - the body, and through the third - the chest and face. For several hundred years, the direct descendants of the Rajas of Travancore ruled the temple complex and were the trustees of the earthly property of Vishnu.

However, a few years ago it turned out that the magnificent temple and magnificent sculpture are only a visible part of the wealth of Padmanabhaswamy. Moreover, an ancient curse hung over Kerala.

The fact is that in 2009, the famous Indian lawyer Sundara Rajan wrote a petition to the Supreme Court of India: he demanded to open the storerooms of the Sri Padmanabhaswami temple sealed more than 130 years ago. The lawyer was worried that, without proper supervision and accounting for the treasure, they could simply be plundered. Rajan, as a former policeman, pointed to the unacceptably poor guard of the temple.

Local police confirmed his words: the Kerala police have neither the technical means nor the experience to protect such wealth. “We need laser alarm systems, video surveillance systems and other modern security systems, but we don’t have them,” said a police officer.

In February 2011, the court recognized the correctness of Sundar Rajan and ordered the state to establish proper control over the temple in order to ensure the necessary protection of the valuables stored in its storerooms. According to the court decision, the historical monument was transferred to the jurisdiction of the government of Kerala.

Of course, the descendant of Raja Travancore and the church trustee of the eighty-year-old Utradan Tirunaal Marthand Varma appealed to the Supreme Court. The aristocrat said that a special law, adopted after India’s independence, gives him the full right to control the temple.

In addition, he insisted that Raja Travancore had long been priests of the god Vishnu, which gave them the right to manage the temple property. However, the Supreme Court did not agree with the arguments of the claimant and rejected the appeal on the grounds that the Rajs in the 21st century no longer have a special legal status and are considered as ordinary citizens of India.

Despite the anger of believers who believed that no one was

allowed to rob the gods, including the authorities, a special government commission carried out the decision of the Supreme Court and opened the temple caches to make an inventory of values.

What was found inside the five secret underground premises shocked the whole world: chests with about 1 ton of gold coins, 1 ton of gold in bars and jewelry, bags of diamonds and other precious stones.

In one of the vaults, crowns inlaid with emeralds and rubies, gold necklaces, a gold chain 5.5 m long, a 36-pound gold “canvas”, rare coins of different countries, as well as an amazing statue of the god Vishnu, lying on the snake Ananta Sheshe from pure gold and having a height of 1.2 m.

According to preliminary data, the found treasures are estimated at almost a trillion Indian rupees, which exceeds $ 20 billion in gold equivalent. This is more than the budget of the entire Delhi metropolitan area!

According to Indian archeologists and researchers, they didn’t even imagine how impressive the treasure would be. Naturally, unprecedented measures were taken by the state government to ensure the safety of the treasure found. For their protection attracted most of the state police. In the temple itself, the security alarm and surveillance cameras were urgently installed.

After this, the Hindus were seized by real mania: grabbing metal detectors or armed with pure enthusiasm, crowds of “pilgrims” ran to the temples - what if there were similar treasures somewhere else? In the "home of the gods" rushed, and those who have never differed piety.

Everyone knows that since ancient times the rich families of India generously donated jewels to temples, and there was a custom during the

wars and civil strife to hide the city treasury in the temples. But sacred buildings in India have always been inviolable, and not all Hindus rushed in search of treasure - believers are terrified by the actions of "blasphemers" and claim that the gods will not forgive the invasion of their homes.

At the same time, the intrigue around Padmanabhaswami temple continues to unfold. After all, only five treasuries were opened. After that, they were going to open the last of six underground storages, where it is believed that the most valuable part of the treasure is located.

However, the curses threatened by the priests of Vishnu stop the highest officials of Kerala from decisive action. And the most vivid example of the fact that it is unwise to dismiss the threats of the priests was the mysterious death of the initiator of blasphemy.

Less than a week after the treasure was opened, seventy-year-old Sundar Rajan died suddenly, according to the official version, from a fever. A physically strong man, who had never before complained about his health, died suddenly, and the autopsy did not establish the exact cause of his death. Of course, many Indians did not believe the press and regarded his demise as a punishment for Vishnu for disturbed sleep.

The descendant of the lords of Travancore is not going to surrender either. He stated that he would fight for the integrity of the last cache of treasures of the Padmanabhaswamy temple. This cache was not opened simultaneously with five other rooms, since it was sealed with a special “serpent sign” guarding the peace of Vishnu. And the matter is not even in the treasures that are stored there.

There is a legend that in a room sealed with the "serpent sign" there is kept a kind of emergency reserve of the Vishnu temple. Gold and jewelry stored there is forbidden to touch.

Only in the most extreme case, when the fate of the principality and the people living in it will be at stake, after the special ceremony, the priests will be allowed to open the door to the treasury, which is protected by a huge three-headed cobra with ruby eyes. Those who try to penetrate the dungeon without permission will face a terrible death.

It is said that somewhere at the end of the 19th century, the English, who felt themselves to be full masters in India, despite all the warnings of the rajah and the priests, decided to penetrate the forbidden treasury. But they failed to do this.

Daredevils who entered the dungeon with torches and lamps, soon with wild cries jumped out. According to them, from the darkness, giant snakes attacked them. Enraged reptiles could not be stopped with either sharp daggers or shots. Several people were bitten by poisonous creatures.

In terrible agony, the blasphemers, who encroached on the treasures of Vishnu, died in the arms of their comrades. No one else ventured to repeat their attempt to get into the forbidden pantry.

So the cherished door is not yet open. One of the servants of the temple even testified under oath that it was impossible to open the “door with a snake” - this promises everyone innumerable misfortunes. The Supreme Court ruled that the last sealed vault would not be opened until the local authorities guaranteed the temple immunity and security, and the treasure - proper assessment and protection, documentation, filming and professional attribution. However, as the judges noted, this has not yet been done even for the wealth already found.

In the meantime, the supreme judges deal with ancient spells, historians and the public are arguing over who owns the treasure and

what to do with it. Vice Rector of the University. Mahatma Gandhi in Kerala Rajan Gurukkal is sure that regardless of whether it was a treasure princely or a temple, it is a unique archaeological wealth, having an age of several hundred years.

"And any archaeological site belongs to the nation." Indeed, in the first place, the temple treasure is of tremendous value as a source of information about the society of medieval India and not only, since treasures, especially such large ones, may contain coins and valuables accumulated over rather large periods of time. Gurukkal is sure that the state should deal with the preservation of found historical and cultural objects, and calls to send the treasure to the national museum.

But the former head of the Archaeological Research Council Narayanan told the press that, on the contrary, the government should not interfere - the fate of the treasure should be decided by the temple council. Otherwise, it will be an attempt on private property.

Representatives of the Indian intelligentsia, including the former judge of the Supreme Court of India Krishna Ayer, suggest using wealth for the good of society: 450 million people in the country live below the poverty line.

“Whether the found treasures are a punishment or a blessing for one of the poorest Indian states, time will tell. With certainty, we can say one thing: for the authorities of the state of Kerala, the money would definitely not be superfluous, ”noted the German weekly Der Spiegel.

At the same time, members of the Hindu communities insist on keeping the treasure in the same place, the article says. And one of them even threatened with a mass suicide action, if the valuables were taken out of the temple. Angry Hindus argue that only descendants of the Maharajas who guard the treasures of the temple can decide what to do

with them.

However, the head of the state of Oommen Chandi has already promised that all values will remain in the possession of the temple. He added that on this occasion there are consultations with the descendants of the rulers of Travancore and the main priest of the temple.

On the other hand, many temples put their treasures in the bank (for example, the Tirumaly temple Venkateshvary, located in the east of the country, keeps a third of its three tons of gold in the bank). Others actively invest in education and culture, build schools.

Particularly interested in the fate of the treasure of the person, who were not surprised at what was found in the secret storerooms, is the princely family of Travancore.

“We are only surprised that this was so surprised,” said Marthanada Varma in one interview. “Everyone knew that our family was rich and for many centuries gave gold to the temple.” At the same time, the prince avoided answering the question of whether his family is ready to transfer part of the found treasures to public needs: “The Supreme Court must give all the answers. We are waiting for his decision. ”

In the meantime, the court draws time, the jewels lie in ancient temples. Not taken into account, they are slowly being taken away, disappear. Often, artifacts are replaced by remakes, and the originals are deposited somewhere in private collections.

The only way to stop this is to place the temple monuments and treasuries under the control of the central authorities, many people in India believe. Actually, this was talked about by a lawyer and a former policeman, Sundara Rajan, who started the story of opening the temple caches and died either from a fever or from the anger of Vishnu.

The main guru of Shaolin

Throughout its history, Zen - this kind of Buddhist school - has had the strongest influence on the traditions and culture of China, Japan, Korea and Vietnam. Painting, ikebana, tea ceremony, art of laying out gardens, martial arts were based on the principles of Zen: striving to comprehend one’s original nature and achieving enlightenment (satori), which will help to see the innermost essence of things and realize their involvement in everything.

The founder of Zen, which in Japanese means "meditation" (Sanskrit - "dhyana", Chinese - "Chan"), is considered a Buddhist monk Bodhidharma. He preached his teaching first in India and then in China.

The path of the preacher In the year 527 of the Nativity of Christ, a Buddhist monk Bodhidharma followed the dusty road of South India, whose name literally means “Enlightened by Teaching” (in Chinese it sounded like Putidamo or simply Damo). He was born in the year 483, becoming the third son of the South Indian Raja Sugandha.

Growing up, Bodhidharma decided to leave worldly vanity and devote himself entirely to Buddhist teaching. However, contrary to the tradition prevalent in India, he did not become an ascetic, but continued to be keenly interested in the events of the surrounding world.

Bodhidharma heard about the difficulties that Buddhism allegedly undergoes in China, and went there from Madras in the hope of instructing the rulers of the Middle Kingdom on the True Path.

Round eyes, a fierce gaze under hanging hairy eyebrows, disheveled hair and beard, strong hands, a heavy body, wrapped in a

piece of matter, so usually depict the legends of this man.

The road from India to China was difficult. Bodhidharma overcame the dangerous mountain passes and crossed the wild jungle swarming with brigands and predators. Only a very brave and strong person could successfully make such a journey. A fantastic element is great in the legends about him: so, having encountered the stormy and full-flowing Yangtze on the way, Bodhidharma, without hesitation, crosses the river on a sheet of reed.

Bodhidharma preached the idea of a total relationship between the general and the whole, which is expressed by the principle “all in one, one in all.” He did not recognize the universal Buddha-god standing above the world, believing that the Buddha, as the true Reality and the Highest Truth, is present in every individual, but not everyone knows how to realize this.

The sage and emperor Bodhidharma, contrary to rumors of wiles against Buddhism, were expected favorably. The first of those in power with whom he happened to meet in China was the emperor W-Di, who personally went out to greet the sage. The emperor was an adherent of Buddhism, patronized monasteries, allocating a lot of money for the construction of pagodas, the rewriting and distribution of holy books and alms to the monks. Naturally, for all his merits, WD expected a good reward in his future life.

Therefore, when Bodhidharma appeared before his throne, W.-Di asked the missionary what worried him most: “After taking the throne, I raised a large number of temples, forced to rewrite many sutras and helped so many monks that it was impossible to list. What merits have I gained by this? ”“ There is no merit here, ”Bodhidharma replied dryly. "Why?" - The emperor was amazed. “All these are ordinary vain deeds, they in fact contain neither merit nor virtues,” explained the newcomer,

who negatively related to lush rituals and leisurely wisdom. The reasons for them are due to self-interest. They are ephemeral, like shadows following forms. ”

“Then what is genuine merit?” Asked the ruler.

Bodhidharma replied: “Purity and wisdom gained in the final Enlightenment. Such merit cannot be obtained through worldly means. ” Again, WD asked: “What is the nature of holiness? What is the meaning of the Highest Truth? ”To which he received the answer:“ There is nothing sacred and unholy in nature - these are just concepts of a dualistic, wandering mind. Nature just is. "

It was too much. The emperor was offended. Not only did a foreigner cross out his valiant deeds - Bodhidharma even denied the holiness of the Buddha! U-Di for a moment forgot about his courtesy and exclaimed loudly: “Then who is standing in front of me?” “I don’t know this,” followed the answer.

W-Dee was shocked. He did not catch the new thoughts that came from India monk.

Seeing that he did not like the emperor, Bodhidharma began to wander around the cities and villages of China in search of people who would accept his unusual teaching that every person is a Buddha - “enlightened” in principle; you just need to awaken him in yourself. One can become a Buddha only by direct and intuitive perception of the Truth. Truth is transmitted without any “intermediaries” of words, written signs and instructions; it is like a lamp passing from teacher to student.

Silence of Thunder After long wanderings, Bodhidharma reached the distant Shaolin monastery.

At first he decided to retire and retired to a cave located nearby, where, facing the wall, he plunged into a state of deep self-contemplation.

For nine years, he was in complete silence, without sleep and rest, "contemplated the wall and listened to the cries of ants," with the result that "his spirit became as hard as a wall." Tradition says that he fell asleep only once, and when he woke up, in anger at himself, he tore out his own eyelashes and threw them on the ground. From them grew bushes of fragrant tea, which Buddhists drink in the period of long meditation, invigorating consciousness. Legends say that this is where the tea ceremony originates, which came from China to Japan in the XII century along with the monks who follow Bodhidharma.

While imparting Zen to his students, Bodhidharma introduced the practice of communicating with them the so-called koans - intellectual riddles, and mondo - dialogues conducted outside the logical plane, when questions and answers are connected only intuitively, on a subconscious level. As a rule, koans are paradoxical, it is impossible to solve them in a rational way. For example, everyone heard about the clap of two palms. And what is the clap of one palm? When a flag rushes in the wind, what moves: flag or wind? All things are reducible to one thing, but what does one mean? The ability to maintain such dialogues testified to the maturity of the student's spiritual experience. The correctness of the decision is determined not by deep concentration on the problem, but by “influx”. This sudden insight, a breakthrough leading to an understanding of the problem, is called “satori” in Zen Buddhism.

Answers to koans could not only be verbal, but also be expressed by actions and gestures (blow, raised finger, shout, etc.). “What is Zen Buddhism?” The student asked his teacher and received a full-blown slap in response. By this, by no means a philosophical gesture, the teacher decided to show what his pupil did with his question: he swung at the

essence of Zen, who teaches that truth cannot be expressed with the help of words.

Bodhidharma fostered the calm and equanimity of his mind with his students. He called this state "the silence of the bottomless abyss," "the silence of thunder," in which all contrasts and conventions disappear.

A man who follows the path of Zen uses his mind like a mirror: he doesn’t grasp anything and doesn’t reject anything - he perceives but does not store. Spontaneity of thinking is achieved by special attention training. The goal is the clarity and vigilance of consciousness, in which events enter and leave, as reflected in a mirror, where nothing is reflected, except for what is.

One should neither suppress thoughts, nor hold on, nor interfere in their course.

The Zen principles developed by Bodhidharma formed the basis of kendo (fencing on wooden swords), karate, judo, and aikido. The fight, in which severe injuries and death are possible, requires from a person precisely those qualities which are brought up by Zen. The fighter does not have time for reasoning, the situation changes so quickly that a logical analysis of the actions of the enemy and the planning of his own will inevitably lead to defeat. The thought is too slow to keep track of a beat lasting a split second.

A pure, uncontaminated mind with unnecessary thoughts reflects any changes in the surrounding space and allows the fighter to react spontaneously. Also very important during the duel is the absence of fear, as well as any other emotions. All this gives Zen.

Inner pill of happiness According to legend, the legs were denied

from long sitting in front of the wall at Bodhidharma.

To get up, he had to resort to physical exercise. So the idea arose of the need for physical improvement of a monk practicing Zen. Bodhidharma developed special complexes of physical training, which gave rise to Kung Fu (physical development), and then Wushu (five martial arts). Bodhidharma is revered as the author of two classic guides on qigong and energy meditation: “The Canon of Tendon Change” and “The Canon of Bone Marrow Change”.

Bodhidharma trained monks on his complexes. It is the Bodhidharma legend that attributes the improvement of chengzu therapy (massage of biologically active points) and the idea that constant physical training is necessary for "melting the inner pill of happiness."

Only one and a half thousand years, medicine came to the discovery of the hormones endorphins and enkephalins and their euphoric effect on the human body.

Since the time of Bodhidharma, the first rule of the Shaolin statute says: "A monk must strengthen his spirit and body constantly, from morning to evening." The style of fighting without weapons, designed by Shaolin monks, is considered the basis of all Chinese forms of martial art. According to legend, the monks of this monastery helped the Tang emperor Tai-tsung (626-649) in the fight against the rebellious dignitary Wang Shichong. Thirteen monks, armed with simple wooden clubs, managed to crush the rebel army and capture its leader. In gratitude, the emperor gave Shaolin the honorary title of the “First Monastery of the Middle Kingdom”.

The monks practiced walking meditation: all the time they were trying to realize how their feet touch or lift off the ground. Bodhidharma taught them a great way to get rid of their thoughts and not be distracted

by anything.

The teacher asked his students to burn the scriptures so that they would not become slaves to words instead of practicing the teaching. Knowledge is a map on which the ultimate goal is indicated, but in order to achieve it, you have to go the entire route yourself.

In the East, words without practice have no price: mastery can be achieved if bricks are put every day, but not by reading books about it.

* * *

The new teaching came upon the desperate resistance of the enemies of Bodhidharma.

Six times they tried to poison him, and six times he miraculously avoided death.

It was also impossible to stab him with a dagger or stab him with a sword - such a murderer was not born yet who could compete with the masters from Shaolin in the martial arts. Some rulers wanted to get Bodhidharma, the glory of which had already spread to all the kingdoms of China, as their advisers and promised him important posts and all earthly blessings. Three times he rejected the invitation of Emperor Xiao-min to come to the court of the Northern Kingdom and take the post of first minister.

The exact date of his death is unknown, but most likely it happened in 536. At least, such a date is mentioned in the story of an official named Song Yun, who, returning to China from abroad on the very day of Bodhidharma's death, met him on a mountain trail in the Himalayas. Bodhidharma was alone, without satellites, in his hand he had one sandal. Sun Yun asked, “Master, where are you going?” “To India,” answered Bodhidharma. “Your master refused this world.”

When the official returned to China, he discovered that the former emperor had passed away, and submitted a report to the new emperor.

The authorities ordered to open the grave of Bodhidharma - and there was nothing but his second sandal...

Mysticism in the life of Emperor Augustus Octavian

The Romans always tried to stay away from Augustus Octavian, the founder of the great Roman Empire. The quick-tempered satrap could get angry because of a trifle and execute any of his subjects whose behavior seemed suspicious to him.

Strange, however, this is not, many omnipotent rulers inspired no less fear. Mysterious feature of Augustus was that he continued to frighten the people and tens of years after his death.

The medieval occultists knew well that a person, without even realizing it, is in constant interaction with the objects around him, animals, plants ... Sympathy and antipathy may arise between the gem and its owner or between trees growing in the forest.

The French King Louis's librarian and educator of his children, a teacher, a Dominican monk, the author of the Great Mirror, an extremely popular comprehensive medieval encyclopedia air.

A person with a strong imagination can change the properties of objects that he uses or which he carefully looks at. But he himself changes under the influence of the place in which he is located, and at times acquires unusual abilities and character traits.

UNFINISHABLE STORAGE

According to Augustus, he knew in advance what would become the emperor. Moreover, he knew the outcome of each war he entered.

In the suburban estate of the future emperor's grandfather, a small room was preserved, rather even the storage room in which Augustus was born and raised. It may well be that if he were brought up in another place or, at least, in another room of the same house, he would become a person with completely different manners, habits and character.

It is also possible that without Augustus, the room in which it was formed as a person would remain the most ordinary ancillary room. However, after the death of the emperor, it turned out that this small room inspired a mystical horror to people: it seemed that Augustus had

conveyed to the humble abode some features of his unbridled temper. No one looked into it, much less entered without need.

If some daredevil dared, he did it very carefully, having performed a special ritual of cleansing in advance so as not to anger and upset the spirits who settled in the room with such impudent disrespect.

Once, the new owner of the estate, whether to try his luck, or unknowingly, decided to spend the night in the nursery Augustus. He spent several hours there, but in the middle of the night a kind of mysterious force threw him out of the threshold along with the bed.

SEVEN PROTECTION

Augustus was incredulous and cruel. This was clear even at the first meeting with him. In the exterior of the ruler there was a lot that warned of the need to behave with him more carefully: sparse and small teeth, a pointed nose with a crook, eyebrows intergrown, piercing and unkind eyes - one of the surest signs that their owner has an evil eye.

Of particular concern to the inner circle was the fact that the birthmarks on his chest and abdomen were located in the shape of the Big Dipper. Well, almost so.

The emperor was convinced that hostile forces were directed against him and that they must be constantly protected from them. Perhaps he believed that these forces were of a celestial nature, and that is why he experienced an irresistible fear of bad weather, especially thunder and lightning.

He believed that they promise him misfortune, failure in public affairs, defeat on the battlefield. To protect against the sudden bad weather, and most importantly, from its bad consequences, he always

carried a seal of a seal with him. However, he generally preferred not to wander during a thunderstorm, but to hide in an underground shelter. Be careful, as they say, God protects.

RESCUE DREAMS

Riots, conspiracies, attempts to carry out a coup d'état, attempts on his life accompanied the entire reign of Augustus. But every time dreams, forebodings and omens, and sometimes the denunciations that came at the right time, helped him to identify the enemies and destroy their insidious plans.

The emperor had many signs, which he infinitely trusted. If in the morning, by absent-mindedness, he put his shoe on the wrong foot, he knew that something bad would happen soon. And if on the day when he set off on a long journey, dew fell, it was a good sign: one could have no doubt of a quick and safe return home.

At the same time, Augustus was sufficiently skeptic and did not trust the occult too much, considering that not all divination was useful. Most lead people to the wrong path and only bring unnecessary commotion and chaos to the people.

By order of the emperor, more than 2,000 recognized Greek and Latin prophetic books were collected and burned. But some valuable divination guides (such as the Sibyllines books) were kept in temples in expensive caskets.

Augustus believed that dreams open people to the future and warn of danger, and that he himself has the rare gift of separating the essential from the accidental and unmistakably interpret it. During one battle, he, believing the dream that his friend had dreamed of, left his tent and secretly left the camp. What do you think? It really saved his life.

OAK PREDICTOR

In Rome in the summer they preferred to live on the shady side of the house, and in winter - on the sunny. Augustus is clearly not suitable. He had to have prophetic dreams every night, and this required certain and unchanging conditions. And that is why for 40 years (!) At any time of the year the emperor slept in the same room.

Once, arriving on the island of Capri, the emperor saw how the branches of an old oak tree that had long faded and lowered to the ground suddenly rose. It was an obvious sign: the victory of life over death, the return of strength and youth to an aging and decrepit organism is possible. The incident so shocked Augustus who dreamed of rejuvenation, that he bartered Capri from the Neapolitans, giving him another island, Enarius.

The walk of FORTY

It is believed that Augustus Octavian allegedly foresaw the day of his death. True, shortly before her family it seemed that the emperor was losing his mind: he all saw that 40 young men were dragging him somewhere.

However, he died the way he always dreamed - “a good death,” that is, quickly and without physical suffering. It happened in the town of Nola on August 19, 14, where the emperor stayed in the old house of his father. Until his death, Augustus was conscious. At first, he had a long one-on-one conversation with his heir Tiberius, who was urgently summoned to the dying Octavian.

Then he said goodbye to friends and asked if, in their opinion, he played well the comedy of life. He ended this conversation with Greek

verse, with which the actor usually finished his performance on the stage: “And if we played well, award us with a standing ovation and spend it with joy.”

Then he asked about the health of his granddaughter, the daughter of Druze, who was ill. And only his wife remained with him. Having collected his last strength, he said with tears to his wife who kissed him: “Livia, remember how we lived together. Live and farewell..."

After his death, the people around him looked at his words about 40 warriors differently. They began to say that it was not a vision, but a foresight, because exactly 40 soldiers carried his body to the people.

There was, however, another explanation for this clearly nonrandom coincidence. Say, the spirit of Augustus came into a rage due to the fact that the Romans doubted the prophetic gift of their emperor. So he played a cruel joke with them, setting up a procession of 40 warriors, for which there were no imaginable reasons.

Secrets of the life and death of Napoleon Bonaparte

Today, the architectural complex of the House of Persons with Disabilities, along with the Esplanade, is one of the most beautiful monumental ensembles of Paris. In front of the building are bronze cannons of the 16th — 17th centuries. They were the ones who saluted in the absence of the triumph of the French weapon during the wars of Napoleon.

The Army Museum is also located there, where one of the most extensive collections of items related to the first French emperor's board is assembled.

Tourists are exhibited for viewing: the Emperor's camping room, his death mask, the famous gray-brown frock coat that he wore in exile and a rich collection of paintings dedicated to Bonaparte.

The tomb of Napoleon I is located in the church of Du Dom, which is considered to be one of the most beautiful in Paris.

In the fate of Napoleon Bonaparte, the mystic played a significant role; he said: “No matter how great my material power was, spiritual was even greater. It came to magic. ” Napoleon Bonaparte, if he did not possess the gift of foresight, then intuitively felt the events that might happen to him.

In the Laurentian Library in Florence, an amazing relic is kept under glass - Napoleon's student notebook, in which he wrote homeworks on overseas colonies. The notebook is open on the last page, where the record is cut off in the middle on an unfinished phrase: “Saint Helena, a small island ...”

Considering that several foretellers of the past described the fate and personality of Napoleon Bonaparte before his birth, let us tell you about one of these people - Philip Olivatius, who was a very famous soothsayer. In addition, he was known as a doctor and an archaeologist, a necromancer and a spiritualist.

But the most surprising of his predictions was that he predicted the fate of Napoleon in great detail and absolutely without mistakes several hundred years before his birth.

The extensive manuscript surprises anyone who is at least a little familiar with the life of a famous Corsican:

"France and Italy will produce a supernatural being ... The young

hero will come from the sea ... 10 years or more he will take to flight the princes, dukes and kings ... He will have two wives ... Then his enemies will burn with fire great city, and he will enter it with his troops. He will leave the city, turned into ashes, and the death of his army will come.

Having no bread or water, his troops would be exposed to such a terrible cold that two-thirds of his army would perish. And half the survivors will never return under his superiors.

Then a great husband, abandoned by his friends who have changed him, will find himself in a defensive position and will be oppressed even in his own capital by the great European nations. The evil will be deceived and destroyed by fire and by fire. ”

Several quatrains of Nostradamus are also devoted to Napoleon Bonaparte, 8th centuria, 57th quatrain says:

“From a simple soldier will become the lord of the empire.
Short clothes change to long.
Brave in battles, very bad for the church. ”

Notable researchers of the heritage of Nostradamus Bois and Lepelletje believed that by a simple soldier the soothsayer meant Napoleon Bonaparte. This is also indicated by the quatrain number (57). The events described by Nostradamus refer to the time when the planet Saturn (7) passed through (5) the sign of the zodiac Leo, that is, 1799-1802.

The French Revolution destroyed not only the royal power but also military personnel. Therefore, Napoleon Bonaparte received favorable conditions for career growth. He had a strong mind, was a talented, courageous commander, an energetic and purposeful politician, he could be classified as people who, at critical moments of crisis, became the creators of history themselves.

Five years after the death of Robespierre in 1799, Napoleon overthrew the Directory, proclaiming himself the first consul of France. And in 1804 he became emperor. On the day of the coronation, he was given a read of Philip Olivatius's letter. Therefore, we can assume that Napoleon was well aware of what awaits him in the future, and did not try to change him.

The 2nd Century, the 99th Quatrain: “The Roman land, which interpreted the omen, will be disturbed by the inhabitants of Gaul. But the Celtic nation will be afraid of the hour when the Boreas take their army far away. ”

Researcher John Houg believed that Nostradamus talks about the robberies and murders of the French army of Napoleon in Italy in 1794-1798. The famous predictor said that the French would be punished for their crimes, when they were far to the north, in Russia. What happened in 1812

“Ready for battle, he is deserting.” The leader of the enemy will triumph. The rearguard will defend. The rest will die on white territory. The whole empire will soon be moved to a small place, which will soon grow again. ”

After the defeat in Russia, Napoleon became the emperor of the island of Elba. Indeed, this minor place soon grew: Napoleon again became the emperor for 100 days.

The 2nd Century, the 66th Quatrain: “Prisoner will escape great danger. Soon the fate of the great will change. People are caught in the palace. With good omen, the city is besieged. ”

In the spring of 1815, Napoleon I landed at Cannes on the

Mediterranean coast of France with a small group of sailors and grenadiers loyal to him.

During the advance to Paris, the army of Napoleon’s supporters increased. The king fled from Paris. But Bonaparte, having seized power, lost it 100 days later in the famous Battle of Waterloo, and then was exiled to St. Helena, where he spent the last six years of his life.

In October 1815 the English frigate Northumberland delivered the emperor to the place of his exile. There was a small English garrison on the Isle of Saint Helena, and there were also several families of former prisoners. Here the former emperor who lost power gradually died away from a serious illness and petty mockery of his captors.

One of the mystical reasons for the collapse of Napoleon’s empire is that numerologists believe the fatal change of name, because, in their opinion, the power of numbers over the fate of a person is unlimited. Until 1800, the emperor of France called himself Napoleon Buonaparte.

The sum of this name is 1. This figure of aggression, indefatigable vanity, leadership and unlimited power. According to numerologists, if the famous Corsican had not removed the letter "y" from his own name, then the story could have evolved quite differently. The number of the name Bonaparte is 4, and this is the number of obscurity and defeat.

But in the fate of Napoleon there are some more important numbers. He was born on August 15, 1769, that is, the number of his birth is 1. Napoleon became emperor on December 2, 1804. The total amount is 9, this is the number of high achievements and successes. Death came on May 5, 1821, which in total is equal to number 4, which overshadowed his titanic work and led to the final defeat.

According to the official version, Napoleon Bonaparte died of

stomach cancer. But immediately after his death, rumors appeared that he died a violent death. According to a study of the modern French scientist Rene Mori, the exiled emperor was poisoned with arsenic.

The main argument in favor of his version of Mori is the fact that when Napoleon Bonaparte’s body was transported to France in 1840, 19 years after his death, it was hardly touched by corruption. The famous scientist explained this phenomenon with the preservative action of arsenic.

The main suspect in the death of Napoleon Mori said the Count de Montonola, who was responsible for the maintenance of the exiled emperor.

The count had not only the opportunity to get rid of his ward, but also the motive. According to Bonaparte's will, he was allocated a large amount, which the bored far from the light column, most likely, could not wait to receive.

There are other versions of who could have poisoned Napoleon. Suspicion fell on one of the Bourbon agents, who, even taking the French throne in 1814, were afraid of the return of Napoleon to France.

After almost two centuries, historians are trying to clarify the causes of death of the first French emperor. The terrible storm that broke out on the night of May 4 to 5, 1821 on St. Helena, abated at the very moment when the heart of one of the greatest men of the nineteenth century stood in the chest forever. The last words of the famous Corsican were: "You will hear Paris shouting: long live the emperor!"

For 19 long years, Napoleon’s grave remained nameless. She was guarded by only one English watch. After all, even after death, Napoleon remained exiled. This is the only thing that the British authorities

allowed to honor the memory of this outstanding historical figure, denying him the right to be buried, according to his will, on the banks of the Seine. Napoleon's jailers were not even allowed to cut his name on a stone that lay on his grave.

Only in 1840 an agreement was reached on the return of the remains of Napoleon to France, initiated by King Louis-Philippe. His son on the frigate Belle Pul solemnly sailed with Saint Helena, taking with him those few who voluntarily went into exile after the emperor.

December 15, 1840 in Paris, was the solemn funeral of Napoleon Bonaparte. The day was harsh and cold. But despite this, the whole of Paris came out on the last journey of his emperor.

Napoleon Bonaparte took a firm place in history, giving his name to an entire era. The empire he created was fragile. But the tragic fate of Napoleon I, full of brilliant victories and catastrophic defeats, deeply shook contemporaries. They could not solve the mysteries of the life and death of Napoleon Bonaparte.

First astronomers

On January 7, 1610, Galileo announced that with the help of a recently invented telescope, he observed four moons rotating in their orbits around the planet Jupiter. This statement immediately provoked heated discussions among the public. Galileo was a man who did not inspire much confidence, so the accuracy of his telescope and observations immediately began to be challenged and attacked in the pamphlets published against him. The authorities are also interested in this story, because if Galileo were right, it would cast doubt on the generally accepted version of the structure of the world, according to which the Earth was located in the center of the Universe.

His opponents expressed many counter-versions, which should explain what exactly Galileo was observing - the optical illusion, the glow of the planet's halo, reflections of glare, luminescent clouds, or perhaps his conclusions were the result of self-deception. English scientist and writer Arthur Koestler noted that all the elements of these hypotheses were exactly the same as those that some 300 years later tried to explain the observed flying saucers. The satellites of Jupiter in 1610 were nothing more than a threat to the outlook of conscientious scientists, just like extrasensory perception in 1960.

Today we know that Galileo was right, and the intellect of our contemporary, even if he has very limited knowledge of the force of gravity and its role in the movement of celestial bodies, will accept without any difficulty that not only Jupiter, but many other planets have revolving around they are moon moons. But was Galileo a discoverer? And is the telescope necessary and the only device for observing such remote objects? Long before the simplest theories, some primitive tribes and ancient societies had an idea of the size of the universe, far exceeding all imaginable. The interest of early civilizations in the movement of celestial bodies is in itself amazing; It is hard to believe that some people, looking at the starlight in the night sky, could imagine small spheres rotating in invisible orbits.

Pygmies from the Ituri forest

Nevertheless, it was available to some, as, for example, to pygmies from the forests of Yguri in Central Africa. French anthropologist Jean Pierre Allet, who became an honorary member of the Efe tribe and lived among them for a year and a half, was very surprised when he learned that they have long called Saturn Bibi Tiba Abutsiua'ani - a star with nine moons.

This astronomical fact at the time of travel Alla was not yet known, 9 satellites of Saturn were discovered in 1899 by the American W. G. Pickering. In 1966, the French astronomer Oduen Dolfus discovered the tiny tenth satellite, only 200 kilometers in diameter, but this moon, of course, is too small to be seen by the pygmies. On this occasion, Allah wrote: I never met the representatives of the Bantu language group or the Sudanese, who in general would be aware of some moons of Saturn, not to mention nine. Most Europeans and Americans are no better informed about the availability and number of Saturn's moons.

Dogona

In the south of the Sahara desert are inhabited by four kindred African tribes, whose lives in 1946-1950 were studied by French anthropologists Marcel Griol and Germain Diterlin. They spent a lot of time with the Dogon people and were pleasantly surprised by the determination of the four main priests with whom they insistently dedicated them to their ancient and secret traditions. The fact that the stories of scientists are completely true, there can be no doubt; Dogons treated them with great respect, and when Griol died in 1956, more than 250 thousand Africans gathered in Mali to pay his last tribute to ashes.

Drawing the models and symbols on the dusty ground, the priests of the Dogon presented to the French scientists their knowledge of the universe, which they had inherited from ancient times. Their concept corresponded with stunning precision to what is known today about the structure of the Universe. In the center of their attention was the star Sirius - the brightest in the sky; as it is known, Sirius is a double star, a white dwarf Sirius B rotates around Sirius A visible to the eye, consisting of a substance of high density and completely inaccessible for observation with the naked eye. For the first time, Sirius B, who looked like a tiny bright spot, was discovered in 1862 by the American Elven Clark thanks to the most powerful telescope of that time; until 1970 it

could not be photographed, since the brightness of Sirius B is 100 thousand weaker than the brightness of Sirius A.

Not only did the Dogon know about this star, they also knew many of its characteristics. They knew that this star is white, that although it is very small, but at the same time it is the heaviest star, consisting of matter heavier than all the iron of the Earth, is a good description for the density of Sirius B, which is so large that a cubic meter weighs about 20 thousand tons. They knew that the orbital period of Sirius B's orbit around Sirius A is 50 years, and that this orbit is not a circle, but an ellipse (despite the fact that an ellipse is the usual trajectory of celestial bodies, this fact is not very wide famous outside the world of professional astronomers).

The rest of their knowledge of the field of astronomy was no less amazing. They depicted a ring surrounding Saturn, inaccessible to the naked eye; they knew about the four main moons of Jupiter; they knew that the planets revolve around the sun, including the Earth, which, moreover, rotates around its axis; what is most surprising, they were convinced that the Milky Way has a spiral shape. The latter fact was not known to astronomers until this century. The Dogons believed that this knowledge was left to them by extraterrestrial aliens.

Maori

The first travelers to New Zealand discovered there the Maori people, different from the Dogon, but also having a diverse and extensive knowledge of the stars and planets, allegedly obtained using astronomical methods even before they sailed here through the Polynesian islands from their homeland, the exact location of which unknown, an impressive feat of navigation of the Neolithic era. One of the researchers in 1814 wrote: They gave the names of most of the stars and constellations, as well as Maori people are subject to some funny

traditions that support with superstitious trembling.

In the summertime of the day, it is quite common for them to stay awake most of the night, watching the movement of the stars in the sky, and inquire about the exact time when this or that star appears. The most inexplicable observation made by Maori is that one of the planets, which they call Parearu, is surrounded by a ring. It is not clear from their legends whether it is about the rings of Sadurn or the bands on Jupiter, but nowadays neither one nor the other can be seen with the unaided pelvis.

First telescopes

How did these mysterious tribes acquire their knowledge? As for Maori, one cannot exclude the possibility that one of the members of the tribe had inhumanly sharp eyesight. Telescopic vision; the presence of the increasing effect of the atmosphere; brighter and more visible through the clean air rings and stripes on celestial bodies; the distant times, when the planets were closer to the Earth than now, all these possibilities for accurate observations, although they look unlikely, should not be completely ruled out. But the knowledge of the Dogon from Mali and the pygmies from the jungle of Ituri are of a completely kind.

Two French anthropologists perfectly understood the essence of this problem: How, without having any tools at their disposal, could these people learn about the movement and the main characteristics of virtually invisible stars? Perhaps they were taught by astronomy by someone else, but not by European travelers, since the beliefs of these tribes are rooted in the past; perhaps this was due to contacts with the civilizations of ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt or Greece. The latter is much more likely. (And about this in the next story.) Although Galidei was usually considered the first scientist to use a telescope, in fact, this

device existed in a primitive form long before it.

The first glass products made by human hands were found in Egypt and date back to around 3,500 BC. O., and primitive lenses made around 2500 BC. They were found in Crete and in Asia Minor. From the manufacture of lenses to the creation of the simplest telescope, there is only one short and simple step; all that is required is to place one lens against another, and this could happen thousands of times. Galileo himself wrote that the ancients were familiar with the telescope.

In the III century BC Euclid set forth the principles of magnification and refraction of light which he derived, and in Greek tragedies there are references to a magnifying glass in the form of a sphere filled with water. Later, the myopic Roman emperor Nero, in order to see the gladiator fights well, used a telescope with lenses made of polished emeralds.

It is not known how effective these telescopes could be and how extensive the knowledge of astronomers of early civilizations was. In Babylon, the phases of Venus were known; perhaps they also managed to observe the satellites of Jupiter and Saturn, although with respect to Sagurn they believed that there were seven satellites instead of nine.

If the secrets of the Egyptian pyramids are solved correctly, this means that the knowledge of the Egyptians extended much more widely than all the above, and included the concept of the Universe, which the Pythagoreans and students of Plato’s philosophical school later adopted, which formed the foundations of civilized thinking. The knowledge of the Egyptians certainly should have included everything that is known today to the Dogons and Iturian Pygmies, and much more besides.

Another possible explanation suggests itself due to modern experiments with extrasensory perception and vision from a distance. For

supersensory perception, which modern psychologists consider pervasive, distance does not matter. Two researchers convinced of this, Ingo Swan and Harold Sherman recorded their impressions of a mental flight on Jupiter and Mercury before the Pioneer 10 and Mariner 10 missiles were launched there. Their descriptions coincided exactly with the results — dense, brightly colored clouds, blue ice crystals, whirlwinds on Jupiter, a thin atmosphere, a weak magnetic field on Mars, and the helium tail of this planet in space, directed from the Sun (this was unknown to astronomers before Mariner's flight -ten).

The knowledge possessed by the Dogon is hardly more accurate than this information, and although they are confident that this wisdom was left to them by the guests from space, it may actually be obtained from the wise clairvoyant who once lived among them who sent his mind to the journey to the brightest star in the sky and then telling about the wonders that he saw.

Mystery of the sun stones

Over the years, scientists have tried to determine how the Vikings managed to make long voyages. After all, as you know, for these desperate Scandinavian navigators with their compact maneuverable ships, the dragons didn't have much difficulty to overcome a path of about 2500 kilometers from Norway to Greenland, without deviating from the course, that is, almost in a straight line!

Not to mention the fact that it was the Vikings, led by Leif Eriksson, who are considered to be the real pioneers of America.

Uunartok Fjord Clock

There was no talk of any kind of magnetic navigation at that time,

seafarers had to literally rely on the will of the sky - to navigate the position of the sun, moon and stars, but the northern waters do not have a mild climate and sunny weather, clouds and fog there common occurrence. How did the Vikings manage to navigate in such conditions?

This question remained unanswered until 1948, until the legendary Uunartok disk was discovered - a compass, which, according to the sagas, in combination with a certain solstenen, a magical solar crystal, served as the main navigation tool of northern navigators. But this discovery gave more questions than answers.

In the records, the modern era of the Vikings and later written sources can be found mention of quite accurate, despite the outward simplicity, the compass, which allowed the soldiers-travelers to determine the direction of the ship in any weather.

So what is special here, you ask. However, for the early Middle Ages, such opportunities were akin to witchcraft. To navigate in the open sea, not seeing the heavenly bodies, with the level of navigation that existed at that time was almost impossible.

Nevertheless, the Vikings, who were considered filthy pagans in the Christian world of the 9th-11th centuries, who did not even have their own state, succeeded with enviable success.

What was the Viking compass and how did it work? The disc fragment from the Greenland fjord Uunartok allowed the researchers to determine that the Viking compass, in fact, was a complex sundial with marks indicating the directions of the world and a thread corresponding to the trajectories of the shadow from the gnomon (central sundial tongue) during the whole daylight day in summer solstice and equinox.

According to experimental data obtained by the researcher of this

artifact, Gabor Horvath from Otvos University in Budapest, the accuracy of the clock was very high: if you place the disk in sunny weather in a certain way - so that the shadow of the gnomon coincides with the corresponding notch, you can orient to the sides of the world with an error not exceeding 4 °.

True, in the writings of Horvat the amendment is made that the Uunartok disc is most effective between May and September and only at latitude of 61 °. In other words, the compass clock was used exclusively in the summer when the Vikings made their trips and provided the most accurate navigation on the way from Scandinavia to Greenland through the northern part of the Atlantic Ocean, on the most frequent and extended route in open waters.

However, the study of only one disk of Uunartok did not give an answer to the question of what kind of mystical "solar stone" that gave the Vikings a landmark, when our luminary was not visible in the sky.

Mythology and Geology

The plausibility of the use of the mythical stone by the Vikings for navigation has been questioned for a long time. Skeptics believed that the “sun stone” was an ordinary piece of magnetic iron ore, and the luminescence and the appearance of the sun from behind the clouds was just a fiction of storytellers.

But the researchers, who studied this problem in more detail, came to the conclusion that things are not so simple, and even formulated the theoretical principle of the method of the northern navigators.

As early as 1969, the assumption that the “solar stone” should be sought among crystals with polarizing properties was put forward by the Danish archaeologist Thorkild Ramskou. His theory also indirectly

confirms the text of the Saga of Olaf the Holy, recorded in the 13th century in the famous Scandinavian saga's Circle of the Earth by the efforts of the Icelandic skald Snorri Sturluson.

The text of the saga reads: “... The weather was cloudy, it was snowing. Saint Olaf, the king, sent someone to look around, but there was no clear point in heaven. Then he asked Sigurd to tell him where the Sun was. Sigurd took the sun stone, looked at the sky and saw where the light came from. So he found out the position of the invisible Sun. It turned out that Sigurd was right. "

After examining all the possible minerals common in the areas of activity of the ancient Scandinavians, scientists came to the conclusion that the main candidates for the role of the notorious solstenen are three minerals - tourmaline, iolite and Iceland spar, which is one of the types of transparent calcite.

The matter remains for small: to determine which of these minerals will turn out to be “the very one”, because all of them were available to the Vikings.

10 years of experiments

The discovery made in 2003 during an exploration of the wreck site of the Elizabethan era, which sank in 1592 near the Norman island of Alderney in the English Channel, helped shed light on the problem of genuine “solar stone”. In the cabin of the captain, a translucent whitish bar of polished stone was found, which turned out to be nothing more than Iceland spar.

This discovery was of great interest to French physicists from the University of Rennes, Guy Ropars and Albert Le Floch, who conducted a series of experiments with Iceland spar. The results, published in 2011,

exceeded all expectations.

The principle of using the mineral is based on double refraction, a property that was described in the 17th century by the Danish physicist Rasmus Bertholin. Thanks to him, the light penetrating into the structure of a crystal is split into two components.

Since the rays have different polarization, the brightness of the images on the back of the stone depends on the polarization of the original light. Thus, by changing the position of the crystal so that the images acquire the same brightness, you can calculate the position of the sun even in cloudy weather, or provided that it sunk beyond the horizon no more than 15 minutes ago.

Two years later, the physics and mathematics journal of the London Royal Society Proceedings of the Royal Society published an equally bold article in its judgments that stated that the bar of Iceland spar discovered on a sunken ship could rightfully be considered a trustworthy navigation device that the Vikings used in their marine wanderings.

Finger to the sky

It is not surprising that the rather bold message about the established geological origin of the “sun stone” from the Old Norse sagas, which was never confirmed by archaeological data of the 9th-11th centuries, was met with a wave of criticism.

In the opinion of the militant skeptics who have not accepted the theory of "polarimetric navigation" of the Vikings, to determine the position of the sun in overcast weather, it is not necessary to invent complex methods - for this it is enough rays breaking through the shroud of clouds.

And the tales of the mythical "solar stones" are inventions of skalds who want to extol the knowledge and skills of "dirty pagans", and nothing more.

In response to these insinuations, Gábor Horváth suggested to skeptics that they should try to determine the position of the sun by literally “pointing at the sky. The subjects were offered several panoramas of the sky at different times of the day and with varying degrees of cloudiness, on which it was necessary to mark with a mouse the place where, in their opinion, the sun is located.

As the experimenters summarize diplomatically, as the density of clouds increases, the average statistical differences between the imaginary and the actual location of the star significantly increase.

In other words, the critics failed miserably. The Vikings really needed an additional navigation device - and they not only found it, but also developed a rather ingenious method of using it.

The joint efforts of Horvath, Ropar and Lefloh experimentally confirmed that the Viking compass, previously considered only a story of narrators, not only existed in reality, but also allowed us to determine the route in open waters with surprising accuracy.

Moreover, the finding from the ship that went down in the 16th century proves that the method of orientation using the “sun stone” known to navigators of ancient Scandinavia was fully justified even in times of magnetic navigation, despite the half-thousand-year abyss separating the Viking Age and Elizabethan England.

The fate of the vanished English colony Roanoke

There are secrets that are destined to remain unsolved for a long time. One of them is the fate of the vanished English colony of Roanoke. It was founded in 1587 on the land of the current North Carolina and consisted of more than a hundred men, women, and children.

All the colonists mysteriously disappeared - and for several centuries now no one can understand what fate befell people. This story has become one of the legends of America, but the key to its solution has not been found until now.

Self-appointed Governor

Roanoke is considered the second British colony in America. True, the first of them existed only a few weeks.

In 1578, the first colonial expedition headed by the famous navigator Humphrey Gilbert set off to the shores of New World. However, due to storms, the courts had to return to England. The new expedition reached its cherished goal only in 1583. Arriving on the island of Newfoundland, Gilbert founded a small colony of St. Johns there and declared himself its governor.

Later, the British tried to explore the territory south of St. Johns. During the trip, one ship was killed, and with the rest, Gilbert decided to return to England. Unfortunately, they could not cross the ocean, near the Azores, the Gilbert's ship flowed and went to the bottom with the crew.

First disappearance

The next expedition was led by Humphrey Gilbert's sibling Walter Raleigh. In 1584, the British landed on the American island of Roanoke and for several weeks surveyed the area, visiting the neighboring islands and the mainland. They returned to Britain with samples of flora and

fauna, and also brought with them two Aborigines. Both Indians voluntarily agreed to sail with white people and were introduced to Queen Elizabeth.

In honor of Her Majesty, Raleigh called this part of North America Virginia (from the Latin. Virgo - "virgin"). Information about the riches of the New World impressed the court and trading companies. For outstanding services to the crown, Walter Raleigh was granted the title of knight and permission to establish a colony in the New World for 10 years.

On April 9, 1585, an expedition consisting of only men went to America and in July reached its shores. About 80 people were left on Roanoke Island to create a British colony and began to settle down in a new place. The colonists had a very hard time: unfamiliar territory, harsh winter, scarce food supplies. In the end, having survived the winter and spring, people decided to return to England - and in June 1586 left the colony, leaving 15 soldiers on the island.

In 1587, a large group of new settlers arrived at the colony, led by John White, who was appointed queen by the new governor. Among the English were White's pregnant daughter named Elinor and her husband.

The colony Roanoke met the newcomers with silence. 15 soldiers left a year ago have disappeared. The fortifications were destroyed; the houses were overgrown with vines and ivy. No trace of the inhabitants, except for the remains of one person, but could not be found. Everything indicated that former residents had left this place many months ago. Nevertheless, the sailing colonists landed on the island, which was to become their new homeland.

Less than a month after this event, Elinor had a daughter, who was named Virginia. It was the first British child born on American soil.

The difficulties of the life of the colonists

Living around a new place, the settlers realized that they lacked a lot: tools, seeds for planting, weapons, but most importantly, gunpowder and supplies. Relations with the Indians were ruined because of the behavior of the British, who lived here before. White realized that he urgently needed to sail to England for supplies and necessary property. He simply had no other choice. He left the settlers one of the three ships and left the colony, promising to return in seven to eight months.

Before sailing, John White agreed with the colonists that if they had to leave the island, they would carve the name of the place to go to the tree — and in case of any danger called the new place of the colony, they would carve a cross. The leadership of the people in the absence of the governor was entrusted to his son-in-law.

In addition, the governor secretly brought several chests of expensive personal belongings out of the house and buried them in a trench near the fort, hoping to get them after returning.

On August 28, 1587, on the day of John White's departure, 90 men, 17 women, and 11 children remained on the island, including the newborn Virginia. Since then, no one has seen them.

No trace

Attempts by John White to quickly return to the colonists were thwarted by the war with Spain. His ships approached the coast of the colony of Roanoke only three years later - on August 18, 1590.

However, the colonists on the island were absent. The fort was empty, its fortifications were carefully dismantled (most likely for

further transportation). Not a single thing was found which, in the event of a sudden escape, may be forgotten or lost.

Everything indicated that the inhabitants of the colony were thoroughly prepared for their care. No signs of struggle or battle were found. Ship and boat disappeared. The chests White had buried before sailing had survived, but were rotten from the weather.

The only clue that could shed light on the fate of the colonists was the message carved on the tree indicated by White. It consisted of one word "Cro." There was no cross under the inscription. Two buried skeletons were also found. White suggested that the settlers moved to Croatoan Island, 45 miles to the south, but they were not there either.

What happened to people?

Until recently, historians have been wondering: what happened to people? They were killed? But who: Spaniards or Indians? Or maybe they, in order to survive, voluntarily went to the tribes on the mainland?

Searches in the surrounding colony area to nothing lead. None of the Indians knew (or did not want to say) about the missing white people.

Together with the settlers disappeared and domestic animals - the people of White could not find a single dog or chicken. As a result, a dispatch was sent to the queen with the conclusion:

“They could not disappear just so that there was not even a trace left. They took the devil. The complete disappearance of the settlers of Roanoke Island is considered one of the main secrets in the history of mankind.

Versions of historians

Scientists have expressed many guesses about the fate of the colonists, but none of the theories no have been proven.

The version that the Indians sacrificed white people to their gods did not stand up to criticism - the local tribes did not have the habit of sacrificing human sacrifice. And most importantly: if the Indians took the British prisoner, why then, after cutting out the word, the colonists did not cut the cross - as a sign of imminent danger?

The suggestion that the settlers set off on a ship to another place and drowned seemed doubtful due to the fact that quite inexperienced sailors remained on the island who would hardly have decided to cross the ocean. Perhaps the colonists could have been killed by the Spaniards fighting the British. A few decades later, it turned out that the Spaniards really sailed to the shores of the colony in 1588 - but there was no one there.

The lives of the colonists claimed the epidemic? But then where did the bodies of the dead go? Settlers seized by another Indian tribe and took with them deep into the mainland? Historian John Lawson studied the life of the Hatteras in 1709, and they said that some of their ancestors were white people.

Some representatives of this tribe had gray eyes that are not found in other Indians. In addition, their names resembled European ones, and words from English were present in the speech. Thanks to Lawson's research, it was this version that until recently seemed the most plausible.

But she also raised questions: why did the colonists leave on the island an indication of moving to one place while they themselves sailed off in a completely different direction? And why haven't any material

traces of white settlers been discovered in the Hatteras tribe: tools, weapons, books, household items?

Wanderers in the ocean

More recently, studying the circumstances of the death of the inhabitants of another English colony of Jamestown, scientists have put forward another version of the fate of the disappeared inhabitants of Roanoke. Analyzing the width of tree rings, biologists from the University of Arkansas recreated a picture of the climate in Virginia of that time. It turned out that in the years 1587-1589 there was a severe drought.

As a result, famine inevitably began in the colony — and people, seeing no other way out, could risk leaving for small ships on their way back to England. It is possible that the exhausted team just died on the way, and the ships sank during the storm or turned into “flying Dutch”, wandering around the ocean with the dead on board.

Now the former colony of Roanoke is one of the most popular places to visit. Tourists come to look at the ruins of the fort and the preserved tree with the inscription carved to try to answer the main question: where did the people go?

Forest wise men of antiquity

Philosophers and prophets, magicians and healers were called by the ancient authors of the Druids - powerful possessors of secret knowledge, who for so many centuries fully dominated in the endless forests of Europe. And this is quite true, because the Druids are not just "tree witches", possessing the secrets of the healing powers of plants.

Their teaching is a unique blend of natural philosophy, magic, and religion. And the magic systems created by these priests are so unique that humanity still continues to reflect on them.

About 400 BC the great Battle of the Trees took place - as the ancient Celtic legend says. This date has long been considered the year of the appearance of the greatest magicians of mankind - the Druids. The word "druid" in Celtic languages means "man of the oak." The root "dru" corresponds to the word "oak" - the most revered tree of the Celts, which they called "the king of all."

“Druids have nothing more sacred than mistletoe and oak on which it grows. For this reason alone, they choose oak forests and do not perform any ritual without the foliage of this tree ... They really believe that everything that grows on oak is sent by heaven and means that this tree was chosen by God ... " - wrote Pliny in his "Natural History".

Celtic Druids were experts on the immense virgin forest, its properties and capabilities. They believed that trees bind heaven and earth. According to their ideas, the leaves and branches "caught" the energy of the sun and shipped it down the trunk to the roots. The reverence for this form of life even led to the fact that the Celtic people, referring to the clergy, used the term: "people-trees".

Druids, possessing great knowledge in all spheres of human activity, were of paramount importance in the life of the Celts. Healers, scientists, judges - for mere mortals, they were "intermediaries between people and gods." Druids kept everyone, including kings, under their control and enjoyed unlimited power.

Here is what Diodorus of Sicilia wrote about the Druids: “Druids are wise and are the supreme power in Celtic. All state affairs must be done with their participation, and they rule with an iron fist. Priests

retain full authority due to their supernatural prescriptions. "

Originally, the Druids called hermits veduns, whose public duty was to take care of the spiritual values of the Celtic communities. The Celts - a group of original tribes - for several centuries owned almost half of the then known world. They were people with a romantic and superstitious soul, fearless and skillful.

The Roman historian Polybius wrote about the Celts: “These are people tall and hardy, beautiful and blue-eyed ... They strive to develop culture and establish centers for education in their cities. They are born riders, brave, loyal and strong. ”

In the first half of the last millennium BC in the territory north of the Alps, Celtic tribes were the first to stand out from the mass of nameless primitive peoples. The initial pages of the written history of the Celts were marked by devastating raids on the richest centers of the time. Formed southern, in particular Greek and Roman, the world was overwhelmed by the courage and courage of the Celts.

Therefore, already in the IV the Celts, whom the Romans called "Gauls", were considered one of the largest barbarian peoples of the then world, along with the Persians and Scythians. This people did not attain complete ethnic unity and did not create a single state entity, a power that would unite the various tribes into an organized whole.

But he created a unique culture, one of the most important components of which was the special knowledge of the priestly class - the teachings of the wise druids.

The main aspect of this teaching is faith in the immortality of the soul. Diodorus Sicily argued that among the Druids, the teaching of Pythagoras was widespread, according to which the souls of men are immortal and capable of finding life in another body. The Druids in

every way sought to strengthen this conviction in their fellow tribesmen. They believed that such faith would eliminate the fear of death and arouse courage in the warriors.

The main concerns of the Druids were the spiritual values of the Celtic people: rituals, sacrifices, healing, and prediction of the future, oral preservation of traditions. It can be said that the community placed on hermits the responsibility for all the main sign systems of their existence: the Druids needed to follow the systems of weights and measures, divinations and omens, calendar, rites and signs.

Each druid was a member of a peculiar order of initiates, at the head of which stood a priest who enjoyed the greatest authority among his fellows. High Druids made up the top of the whole class of hermit priests.

They were contraindicated to engage in physical labor, the community provided them with everything they needed. They lived in sacred oak groves, and caves served as their dwellings. Whatever the property, the druids were not supposed to possess.

The Druids decided to unite in friendly alliances (heteries) in order to jointly comprehend the secrets of mastery. Druids monitored the correctness of public sacrifice and interpreted all issues related to religion. Diodorus of Sicily testified that the Celts made sacrifices only with the participation of the druids.

To resort to the mediation of the Druids was simply necessary, because the Celts believed that they knew the temper of the gods and knew how to speak their language. The presence of the druid made it possible to hope that the grateful sacrifices will be accepted favorably and will allow to achieve the highest mercy. Before the Celtic peoples were Christianized, their traditional royal sacrifice consisted of the ritual “mating” of a druid with a horse, after which the animal was sacrificed.

Frequent were human sacrifices. Usually, criminals and prisoners of war were sacrificed, but when there were none, they were killed by their fellow tribesmen. The unfortunate were burned, killed by arrows or stabbed with a sword. This left an indelible impression, forced to completely obey the will of the priests.

The bloody sacrifices, the performance of which was one of the main functions of the Druids, were incompatible not only with the Roman ideas of worship, but also with the Christian cult that replaced them. Therefore, in the middle of the IV. n e. the bishops and presbyters of Spain, Gaul and Britain began to prohibit the Celts who converted to Christianity to hold traditional sacrifices.

But as we have said, no ritual could do without the participation of the druid in the life of the Celt: from the birth of a person to his burial. Even the names of born babies were given by wise hermits (they also called rivers, lakes, cities, and even trees).

The rite of naming the infant was accompanied by the prediction of its future. Depending on the prospects that were opened, the druid imposed bans on the life of the child, designed to correct adverse omens. Ritual taboos — geyses — had the right to impose only druids. They skillfully manipulated the prohibitions in order to subordinate the lives of their fellow tribesmen to a whole system of strict rules.

For example, someone was predicted that he would die in a fight with a dog. It is clear that such a person all his life avoided meeting with the forbidden animal. It happened that a man avoided traveling in a carriage or wading a river all his life conscious.

Along with the Druids among the Gallic tribes, there were two more groups of people who enjoyed special respect in society: bards and

soothsayers. Bards were singers and poets glorifying the feats of famous husbands; soothsayers knew the sacred rites and studied the nature of the divine.

But the Druids, according to Ammianus Marcellinus, surpassed everyone by their education and penetration into the secrets of the universe. Here is what Posidonius wrote about this: "Druids are recognized as the most honored among other priests and have great authority in matters of peace and war."

Indeed, the Celtic hermits, experienced in the art of "divination and all other wisdom", had a great influence on the political life of Gaul, in particular on the institution of royal authority. Often they not only ritually sanctioned the selection of a new king, but also nominated candidates for the royal office.

At the Irish royal court, the druids were surrounded by the greatest honor. The ancient Irish Geis forbade the king to speak before the druid says his word. Without the advice of the Druids, the rulers dared not take any important decision. Therefore, the true rulers of the countries of Keltia were precisely the Druids, and the kings seated on the luxurious thrones were only the executors of their will.

Druids often played the role of ambassadors and led the foreign affairs of their tribes and communities. Thus, a contemporary of Caesar, the druid Divitiak, asked for help from the Roman Senate in the war against the secants, the allies of the Germans. Typically, the Druids did not take part in the war (they were generally exempt from all services and duties). Their main functions in the war boiled down to divination about the outcome of the battles and the use of the so-called combat magic: protective - for their tribe and harmful - for opponents.

There is documentary evidence that the Druids have more than once prevented war by simply walking between two armies facing each

other and whispering spells. One of the most effective means in the druid's arsenal was considered to be a curse, which the sorcerer sent to enemies before a decisive battle: "I will damn the enemies and blaspheme and defame, I will deprive them of their resilience in battle".

However, it is not worthwhile to present the Druids exclusively as feeble good-looking elders, who did not hold anything heavier than a ritual wand. Many Druids, trapped in the annals of history, became famous as brave warriors who led detachments and entire squads.

Druids were the main rulers of human destinies of the Celtic tribes and in peacetime. The people considered the priests to be the fairest and wisest of men, therefore they were entrusted with the consideration of all disputes that arose. Whether the petty crime or murder was committed, whether the inheritance lawsuit was underway - the decision on all these issues was made by the druids.

Solving disputes, the priests mainly relied on three things: the "cauldron of truth", the tree and the touch of the altar. The cauldron of truth was called a silver or golden vessel, which, it was thought, made it possible to distinguish truth from falsehood.

He was filled with boiling water and the defendant's hand was immersed in it. If he was guilty, his hand was scalded, but if he was not guilty, the boiling water did not cause him any harm. One could have sworn in the rightness of his words by touching a tree or an altar. By sounds or other signs emanating from these objects, knowledgeable druids judged the innocence or guilt of the defendant.

Druids were also famous for their great healers. There were legends as if they had the ability to recognize a person's ailment by smoke alone, flowing from his home. Only they, the priests claimed, knew the healing properties of 350 plants: trees, shrubs and herbs.

During the year, the students of the druids each day of the lunar month became acquainted with a new healing plant. They sought to recognize the healing properties of the plant, to master the various ways of collecting, drying, decoctions and infusions of medicinal herbs. It is believed that the druids received their famous elixir of oblivion solely on the basis of plants.

In total, the Druids practiced three archaic types of healing — fire, iron, and medicine — without fail accompanying healing procedures with conspiracies and witchcraft. Just like many other healers of antiquity, the Druids have resorted to treatment with the help of sleep, caused by special music.

Perfectly owned by the druids and the art of divination. Most often, community members were interested in the prospects for the development of events on the eve of the war, their own fate, and predictions about who will become the next king. The best way to predict the outcome of the battle with the druids was considered fire from mountain ash firewood: if the flames of the fire turned towards one of the troops participating in the battle, he should hastily retreat.

Druids knew how to recognize the future also by signs and omens related to the animal world. It was believed, for example, that the flight and the cries of birds are predictive in nature. Druids also attributed the ability to impose spells on the water and "bind" them so that everywhere meleli ponds, springs dried up, wells dried up.

Other craftsmen, on the contrary, could “untie” the waters: with a spear's tip, they brought underground sources to the surface and filled the reservoirs with life-giving moisture. Among the stories about the powerful druids, commanding the elements, a special place is occupied by legends about their domination of the winds. Druids could, for example, have resorted to this art to try to prevent enemy forces from approaching.

Struck by the terrible spell - "the whiff of the Druids" - the enemy's warriors ceased to distinguish their own from others and could kill each other in a blinding way.

It was not customary for the druids, the keepers and interpreters of the ancient wisdom, to write down whatever knowledge they possessed. The wise men for centuries passed from mouth to mouth the sacred secrets of dendrology, astrology, nature and human life. They revealed their secret knowledge to students far from people, in the depths of caves and forests.

Hermits talked a lot about the luminaries and their movement, about the world, about nature, about the power and authority of the gods. Druids were known throughout Europe for their schools and universities. It was believed that the best among these schools were Tara in Ireland, as well as Oxford, Anglesey and Iona. Only the most capable youth, mainly from the upper classes, could receive education in such institutions.

“Druids have the great power of education,” wrote Caesar. - Those who have not received an education are not allowed to conduct any public activities. All people from the upper class strive to send their children to school and show a desire to leave them in the order. Universities are like monasteries.

The youth trained by the Druids are led to the most secluded places, to caves, forests or rocky gorges. The full term of obtaining a completed education is at least twenty years. Young druids are taught according to individual or general programs, but regardless of this, everyone must learn about twenty thousand verses. ”

Since the Druids never wrote down the secrets of their wisdom, they left a negligible number of written records, most of which belong to

Ireland. In this country, Druidism - the primordial religion of the Celts - was maintained especially long, until the New Age. In the rest of the territory, the teachings of the Druids existed only until the beginning of the Roman occupation.

Druids in every way struggled with romanization, and therefore the Roman government was particularly interested in the elimination of the Celtic wise men. There is also an assumption that the Druids disappeared not so much under the pressure of the Roman administration or the Christian religion, but rather as a result of the cutting down of Western European pristine forests, which served as a haven for Druids for many centuries.

"Secret Protocols" by Johanna from Jerusalem

About this man, little is known. They say he was born in 1042 and died in 1119. In the interval between these two dates, he participated in the creation of the mysterious Order of the Templars and compiled a book of prophecies, in which there are references to significant events of the third millennium. Where is this book? What is written in it? How did he know everything?

The manuscript of the 14th century, which was kept for a long time in the Trinity-Sergius Lavra in Sergiev Posad, calls this book "secret protocols." It said that those with these protocols in their hands would have almost unlimited power over those around them.

The very same Johanna of Jerusalem in the manuscript states only that he was "the most courageous among the brave" and "holy among the saints." It also says that he "can read and listen to the sky" and that "he was the eye and the ear with which the powers of God are seen and heard."

Thus, Johann from Jerusalem was a mediator between us and some higher powers. Isn't he an alien? .. However, the subsequent data of his life speak of his purely earthly origin.

Johann was born and grew up in Burgundy, where huge monasteries were located. Probably, Johann's parents made pilgrimages to the monastery of Santiago de Compostela, and the baby was born near Wesel. Subsequently, he spent almost all the time in the Benedictine monastery.

In any case, in one of their manuscripts, the Benedictine Benedictists write about "Johann from Jerusalem, the son of a monastery, the child of Burgundy, the Christ soldier in the Holy Land." However, after the XIV century, his name is not mentioned anywhere else. Maybe, because it was dangerous to refer to Johann from Jerusalem and his writings. After all, he was one of the founders of the Knights Templar (Templar) Order. And, as you know, they were first elevated, and then they were persecuted by the French king Philip the Fair. And the order was exterminated almost completely.

The manuscript found in Sergiev Posad reports that Johann from Jerusalem often went into the desert to meditate, pray, and meditate. "He was there, where heaven meets the earth, knew the body of Man, Earth and Heaven, he could follow the paths leading to the secrets of these worlds."

That is, in other words, Johann was a healer and at the same time an astrologer or astronomer. He knew so much that in the end he decided to share his knowledge with others. From 1117 to 1119 he wrote a book of prophecies in Jerusalem. It is believed to give interpretations of human destinies, as well as a panorama of the third millennium.

It is assumed that, after completing his work, Johann from Jerusalem rewritten the manuscript six times himself or gave it for correspondence. Therefore, there must be seven lists of the book of prophecies.

It is not easy to explore the paths taken by these seven copies of the book of prophecies, since Johann's manuscripts from Jerusalem sometimes disappeared from sight for centuries. It is only known that one of the copies of the book of prophecies was brought to Rome, and there is reason to believe that it is still in the archives of the Vatican.

Bernard transferred the second copy of the book to the monastery of Wesel, where it was preserved for many decades. She disappeared - probably, was hidden in some cache - during the time of the pursuit of the Templars.

The third copy fell into the hands of the legists - the lawyers of the French royal court. And she became one of the "evidence" that was presented during the lawsuit organized by Philip the Beautiful against the Order of the Templars by the prosecutors on the part of the king. Thus, the manuscript of Johann from Jerusalem played, against his will, a fatal role in the fate of the order, of which he himself was one of the founders.

Then, according to some sources, this list could get to the famous doctor and astrologer Michel Nostradamus. It was from there that he gathered information for his Centuries. But the manuscript then perished along with his son Michel Nostradamus the Younger. He was killed and burned by outraged people after he set fire to the town of Puzen near Priva in the Cevennes. Thus, the arsonist wanted to prove that he was right when he predicted the destruction of the city by fire.

Another copy of Johann handed over to the Master from the East,

who stayed in Jerusalem during the trip. In this way, one of the manuscripts of Johann from Jerusalem came to Asia. Where exactly - is unknown, and nothing definite can be said about its fate.

About the fifth copy in a row it is only known that he was in the archives of Byzantium for several decades. Then in 1453 he was handed over to a Greek monk, one of those hermits who, like a bird, “build their nests” high in the rocks. So maybe this prophecy book is still stored in one of the niches on Mount Athos.

There is no information about the whereabouts of the sixth copy of Johann’s manuscript. He disappeared. It is said that this manuscript, which was once in the Trinity-Sergius Lavra, was confiscated by the Bolsheviks in 1918 and then simply destroyed, because Johann from Jerusalem did not predict that the third millennium would be a time of triumph for communism.

Finally, the seventh copy of the manuscript is probably kept quite close by - in the secret archives of the Lubyanka. This book was brought in 1945 from Berlin, where it was discovered in Hitler's bunker. She got there in 1941 from Warsaw, where the “secret protocols” were kept in one of the libraries of the Jewish community.

Did Hitler learn anything from the “secret protocols”? Hard to say. It is only known that the Fuhrer three times brought together persons especially loyal to him, in order to "call" the third millennium at a seance, because he intended to create a thousand-year Reich.

Unlike Hitler, Stalin had little interest in the opinions of astrologers and soothsayers. And therefore left the manuscript at the disposal of the NKVD. It is also possible that he understood that he himself would not live to the third millennium, and that he would not have much interest after him.

I wonder if the current leaders of our state looked into the “secret protocols”? If so, why did not they risk introducing the people to the mysterious manuscript? After all, it would also be interesting for us to know what awaits us all in the coming 21st century and the third millennium.

Ten executions of Egypt - through the eyes of epidemiologists

The so-called exodus of the Jews from Egypt is described in the Second Book of Moses. It says that once a group of Jewish nomads — about 70 people — distressing on the occasion of a prolonged drought, appealed to the Egyptian pharaoh to allow their cattle to graze in the Nile Delta on the meadows of the land of Goshen.

The hospitable pharaoh let them go to their lands, and out of courtesy did not even begin to stipulate the term of stay of the “guests”. Say, live as you want. Alien nomads took advantage of this invitation, so to speak, to the fullest. They remained on the land of Egypt for 430 years.

But everything ever ends. Pharaonic's patience is over. The next ruler of Egypt, fearing, as it were, the "guests" did not stab him in the back in case of attack by external enemies, began to oppress them.

The Jews understood that it was time for them to leave. However, Pharaoh even opposed this - he did not smile at all, so that people, who are well acquainted with the orders of the Egyptian state, came out of it, then united with the opponents of the pharaoh and returned again as conquerors.

The burden required a lot of time and effort, until finally the Pharaoh, frightened by the ten Egyptian executions, agreed to release the Jews and their leader Moses on all four sides.

But then “the Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and he chased after the sons of Israel” ...

And since, as stated in the same Bible, in this case, it was important for the Most High to prove his superiority over all, he immediately switched to the other side and decided that "I ... will show My glory on Pharaoh and on his entire army; and the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord."

As a result, the wonders of irrigation were demonstrated. First, the sea parted and let the people of Israel pass, and then it closed again and "covered the chariots and the horsemen of the whole army of Pharaoh ... and not one of them was left."

It would seem a miracle of miracles, but current researchers believe that under certain weather conditions a strong wind could drive the water away from the coast for a while. But as soon as the wind subsided, the sea returned to its original boundaries.

Therefore, it is not surprising that historians have managed to calculate an almost exact date when the outcome occurred. It happened in 538 BC, when the Persian king Cyrus allowed the Jews hijacked in 587 BC in Babylonian captivity by the Assyrian king Nebuchadnezzar, return to his homeland - to Palestine.

But if this is so, probably, it should find a rational explanation and a riddle of ten deadly sins ... Epidemiologists from the University of Connecticut (USA) are convinced that they managed to explain all 10 Egyptian executions without any mysticism.

In the biblical book "Exodus" events are set out precisely and consistently, scientists believe. It is only necessary to interpret them correctly. Moses and Aaron are asked to let their people go. But Pharaoh does not want to hear about it.

Then Aaron raises the staff and strikes them in the water of the river. And the water in the river turns into blood. “And the fish in the river died out, and the river died, and the Egyptians could not drink water from the river; and there was blood throughout all the land of Egypt."

Such was the first execution. But she did not make an impression on Pharaoh, and he did not heed the requests of the Israelites. And then God sends the second penalty to the Egyptians - the whole river boiled down with frogs, which began to enter the houses, and in the bed, and in the furnace, and in the ferment.

Both executions are connected with each other, the researchers believe, the second follows from the first. And both are easily explained by natural causes. The bloody water in the river is the well-known microalgae, really dangerous for all living things. They suck oxygen from the water and release a poison that kills all living things.

Pisces had nowhere to go, they died and froze. Amphibians, including frogs and toads, climbed out of the river and spread around the neighborhood in search of other water, because without it they also had perdition. Here and climbed anywhere, including in the pot.

Seeing all this, the frightened pharaoh ordered Aaron to remove the toads. Then he, they say, will let the people of Israel go. Aaron stretched out his rod, the toads became extinct. But Pharaoh did not fulfill the promise.

Then the Lord sent down myriads of midges on people and cattle. “This was to be expected,” say the researchers. “Midges multiplied among decaying toad remains ...”

And in the Bible there is one detail by which you can accurately determine what these were for midges. When Aaron hit the rod into the earth, the dust turned into midges.

“There is no doubt,” says Professor M. Mar, “that we are talking here about the midges of the Kulikoid species. This is an unusually evil little mosquitoes, laying eggs in the dust. And their larvae feed on the mineral remains of decaying organisms.

Other insects of the same origin, which are called fly flies in the Bible, were of the same origin. It was the fourth penalty, but behind it, since Pharaoh kept on resisting, the fifth one followed — a plague of plague killed all the cattle.

Dr. Mar rummaged through all the reference books in search of a disease that would be spread by mosquitoes of the Kulikoid species. And they even found two — African horse disease and “blue tongue” —a severe viral disease affecting the blood system in sheep and cattle.

From these diseases and died Egyptian cattle. The Israeli survived, but not because the Lord wanted it this way, but simply he was grazing elsewhere, and the infection was not transmitted to him. The land of Hessem was 150 km from the land of Pharaoh, and mosquitoes on their tiny wings simply could not overcome such a distance.

As Pharaoh continued to stubbornly, his state was attacked by the sixth penalty, which was an inflammation with boils, struck the remaining cattle, and then spread to the people.

“That was the well-known sap,” the researchers believe. “This infectious disease can also be acquired from flies, microbial carriers, and dirty water or food. For the first time, sap was described by Aristotle in 330 BC. He was known at that time and earlier in the Middle East and Africa. ”

The seventh penalty with the previous ones is not related. But there is nothing supernatural either. The hail that has beaten the crops, from time to time falls to the ground today. Moreover, the Bible provides an interesting detail - hail was beaten only by early crops, which managed to drive out the ears. Late crops, just peeking out of the ground, practically did not affect the hail. So, the laws of nature are not violated here either.

The next, eighth penalty is the invasion of the locust, which has destroyed the crops that survived the hail. In it, too, there is nothing so unusual - the locust still raids on the southern lands, bringing considerable losses to the farmers.

The ninth penalty – is thick darkness, which lasted three days throughout the land of Egypt. Scientists have suggested that the Egyptian darkness could cause a grandiose explosion of a volcano somewhere nearby, say, on the island of Santorini in the Aegean Sea.

The explosion actually occurred 3,500 years ago and fell asleep with the fine ashes of the entire eastern Mediterranean. However, Mar suggests a different explanation - a sandstorm. Such darkness is mentioned in the ancient papyrus belonging to those times.

It remains, therefore, to explain only the tenth penalty - the death of all the firstborn from the son of Pharaoh to the son of a slave - and all the original cattle.

Researchers take on this task. They recall the sudden death of eight children in Cleveland several years ago. The children died because in the damp basement of their house a black poisonous fungus started.

A similar incident could have happened in Egypt. The hungry dawn of the day people made their way to the barns, and the fungus that had bred during that time in darkness was already waiting for them there. First of all, he was struck by the weakest - babies, and, of course, not only the firstborn. This is a rumor, the legend has identified such a feature.

However, can so many ills fall upon one state in a relatively short period of time?

It turns out that there is historical evidence. The old Russian word "fad" directly indicates the link between natural disasters and epidemics. It is the winds that carry germs and other pathogens.

Say, in the fifth century BC in Africa, more were raging, accompanied by earthquakes and floods, as well as droughts. “All the forces of the world united against man then,” Fogdit wrote on this subject. The year 427 was especially hard when volcanoes came to life on the islands in the Aegean Sea, causing tsunamis to the sea and flooding the entire coast. And in Athens, many houses collapsed due to soil fluctuations.

In general, if you wish, all ten Egyptian executions and other similar incidents can be explained without the help of the Lord. However, this does not mean that he has nothing to do with it. After all, all these disasters could be, according to the same Bible, sent to them.

Mysteries and secrets of the genetic disk

This is one of the most mysterious artifacts in the world. The diameter of the stone circle, found on the territory of Colombia and called the genetic disk, is 27 centimeters, weight is about two kilograms.

Both of its sides are covered with images of fetal intrauterine development at all stages. Now doctors observe this process with the help of special devices. But how did the details of it become known six thousand years ago? And what other knowledge could representatives of a civilization unknown to us have?

Drawings that cannot be repeated

Colombian professor Jaime Gutierrez Leta has been collecting inexplicable antiquities for decades. Most of the specimens from his collection were found in an unexplored and difficult to pass area of Suthatus, located in Cundinamarck province. These are stones with images of people and animals, as well as products with incomprehensible symbols and inscriptions in an unknown language.

The main exhibits of the professor's collection are the genetic (second name - embryological) disc and other things made of lidite, a stone that was originally mined in Lydia, a country in the west of Asia Minor.

Such a mineral is as hard as granite, but with exceptional strength it has a layered structure and is very difficult to process.

The stone is also known as darlingite, radiolith and basanite, it is distinguished by its bright color. Since ancient times, it was used for the production of jewelry and mosaics.

But to cut something on it, even using modern tools, is almost impossible!

This does not allow making the layered structure of the mineral, which under the influence of the cutter will necessarily crumble. Nevertheless, the genetic disk is made from it. Moreover, the drawings in appearance do not resemble threading, but rather stamping.

Apparently, some unknown technology was used in the processing of the mineral. That is, even without taking into account the images themselves, we immediately encounter the first secret, which is still unexplained.

Masters of underground tunnels

Another mystery - where exactly was the disc found? Professor Leta purchased it from one of the locals who claimed to have discovered a stone circle with inscriptions somewhere near the town of Sutatau.

But some scientists (for example, Erich von Daniken) admit that the disc could have been related to the collection of rarities by priest Carlo Crespi, a missionary who worked in the middle of the 20th century in Ecuador. In order to somehow support their parishioners, padre Crespi bought from local residents antiquities that they found on the fields or in the jungle, from Incas ceramics to stone slabs.

The priest himself was never engaged in taking into account his collection, but it is known that there were items in it that did not belong to any of the famous archaeological cultures of South America. These were mostly metal objects, but there were also stone circles and tablets covered with inscriptions and drawings.

After the priest's death, some valuables from his collection were taken to the Vatican, while others were simply thrown away.

According to Crespi himself, the locals found stone-covered stone products near the Ecuadorian city of Cuenca - in underground tunnels and cells located among the jungle. The Padre also claimed that the ancient system of such underground tunnels more than 200 kilometers long stretches from the city of Cuenca to the jungle. Later, Erich von Daniken also wrote about the same system of tunnels in his book “The Gold of the Gods”.

Could a genetic disk be somehow connected with the people who built these underground structures?

Draw on the circle

Not less questions are what is shown on the disc. Along its circumference, on both sides, the whole process of the birth of a human being is shown with jeweler accuracy: the device of the reproductive organs of a man and a woman, the moment of conception, the intrauterine development of the fetus, the birth of an infant.

In the left part (if you imagine a circle in the form of a clock face - approximately in the region of number 11) there is a clear pattern of a male testicle without a sperm cell and next to it is the same with a sperm cell (apparently, the author wanted to show the process of the birth of a male seed).

For information: spermatozoa were discovered by Antoni van Leeuwenhoek and his student Johann Gum only in 1677. As is known, this event was preceded by the invention of the microscope. But the drawings on the disc prove the existence of such knowledge in ancient times!

Further on the disk, in the direction of the number 1, you can see

several already-born spermatozoa. After this an incomprehensible drawing follows - the scientists have not come to a single conclusion what it means. In the area of figure 3, images of a man, a woman and a child are visible. However, it is impossible to determine what race these people belong to.

On the reverse side of the disk at the top is depicted the embryo in several stages of development, ending with the infant formed. Figures show the evolution of intrauterine life from amphibians to humans. In the area of the number 6 - again the image of a man and a woman.

A medical examination confirmed: the disc does depict the main stages of the development of a human embryo, which can be easily identified. In particular, this is indicated by such features as the eyes that lie, as it were, outside the rest of the head, as well as a wide segment of the nose. These features are characteristic of early embryonic development of the head.

Other collection artifacts

In addition to the disc, there are other items in the Gutierrez collection made from lead. Apparently, they belonged to the same mysterious representatives of an unknown civilization.

For example, a multi-figured figurine, on the one hand of which is a mother and a child, and on the other - men in equipment for hunting.

Or it’s a very unusual knife. At the top, on its handle is the head of the mother, and below it is the head of a child, whose neck is wrapped around the umbilical cord. Obviously, this knife was used to cut the umbilical cord and save the life of the newborn. In addition, it could be used in case of complications when a child is born.

The knife is made so that it is convenient to push it with only one thumb - that is, not with all my might. It is much safer for the child - even compared to the tools that are used today, because sometimes when they are used there is a risk of injury to the head of the baby.

Among the artifacts there are many other items, clearly used for medical purposes. At the small size they differ in unusual perfection of forms.

The famous archaeological researcher, Professor Klaus Dona from Austria, supervised the examination of these tools in Vienna. In a number of articles, he noted that they were carefully examined by the world's best experts.

The conclusions were unanimous: no one could understand how these objects were created, but everyone agreed that nowadays it is impossible to make such perfect tools from the same material. They are suitable for hands of any size - they were made with such precision.

Thousands of years ago

To which time period do the genetic disk and medical instruments from lidita belong?

Geological examination carried out at the National University of Colombia showed that they belong to the prehistoric era and the possibility of falsifying these artifacts is practically excluded.

Since they are found in Colombia (or, which is not excluded, in Ecuador) and do not belong to any of the pre-Columbian cultures of South America that exist, researchers determine their age at least six thousand years.

So far, no one can explain what kind of technology was used to make such items. But based on the study of these findings, we can conclude: they all belong to an unknown, highly developed civilization of the past, about the existence of which official science cannot say anything yet.

And it is not at all possible that secrets of genetics are encrypted in the embryonic disk, which has yet to be discovered by modern scientists.

Aryans - the highest spiritual fathers of the Slavs

Speculations regarding the concepts of Aryans, Aryans, Aryans, repeatedly agitated the minds of many researchers of the recent past. All this is connected with the extraordinary confusion that was brought to the understanding of Aryanism by the events of the 30-40s of the 20th century, which grew out of an unhealthy interest in the Aryan issue from the adherents of German ocultism - the founders of Nazi Nazism and fascism.

These adherents intended to use the ancient knowledge of the Aryans for their black mystical practices of one single kind, wishing to artificially combine white and black, light and dark, suggesting the ultimate goal of creating the ideological foundation of a certain thousand-year-old empire - the German Reich.

To create such an ideological foundation, for hybrid mixing of the light knowledge of the ancient Aryans with the dark ocult practices of Odin's followers (Votan, Wodan), and these adepts considered themselves to be such, access to artifacts and the bright heritage of the Aryans closed to occultists was required.

But in order to understand why adherents of German occulism need

the bright knowledge of the ancient Aryans, it is necessary to figure out who such ancient Aryans are and what their knowledge was?

Knowledge of the Aryans is an understanding of the true world order of the Universe, the motor forces and the control system of such a device of Bright Iriy and his highest part, Rule, led by the Creator Svarog. This knowledge of the laws of Rule, Reveal, Navi.

Knowledge of the Aryans is the ability to contact the highest light power of the Universe, and, through it, the ability to influence the surrounding material world and its inhabitants is Jav.

The knowledge of the Aryans is the doctrine of eternity in the spiritual life (eternity of the soul) through service to Bright Iria, the fulfillment of life in the Government, the knowledge and glorification of such.

For arias are the highest spiritual messengers in the system of disseminating knowledge about Light Iria, revealed by the Creator for the high goals of the spiritual improvement of humanity, for harmonizing life on Earth.

They are spiritual Old Men, or Rakhmans, who have attained the highest wisdom, are able to influence life on earth through spiritual practices, have supreme contact with the hierarchy of Light Iriy, with the souls of the higher Ancestors, and the Creator itself. They are the spiritual leaders of their people, named, according to spiritual estimates, by the Slavs.

The purpose of the life of the Aryans is the carrying of light knowledge to humanity, the struggle against all sorts of dark ocult practices, against their destruction. Reveal as such, against the killing of souls in Bright Iria.

This is what explains the secrecy of Aryan knowledge for adherents of Odinism and Egyptian darkness, various suits of occultists, magicians and witches.

But where did such people come from and why did they show, and show, hostility towards bright-hearted people?

In the historically distant time, the Earth did not manage to avoid the influence of aggressive, viral and parasitic field formation on the body of the Universe, which has an anti-world (the Odinists call it Valalla, the worshipers of darkness - the realm of the dead).

The antiworld is a gathering of dark field creatures from outside Bright Iria. Antiworld is an ulcer on the body of the Universe because it does not have its source of existence. The manifested souls of earthly people are his food and purpose for constant attacks.

The earthly cataclysms of the last few tens of thousands of years (25-23, 17-16, 9-8 thousand BC) are the result of an uncompromising struggle that unfolded between bright people, adherents of the Government and the Light Iriy, and adherents of the anti-world - the followers of the Egyptian darkness, odinizma, magic and black practices.

It was after the cataclysm of 25-23 thousand BC, after a significant loss of knowledge of the Government, the ancestors of the Slavs had to organize a campaign to the East, to Zagorje-Semirechye, to Northern Tibet, where the Aryan tradition and knowledge were stored in the proper places. There, in Zagorje-Semirechye, according to the "Book of Veles", in gratitude to the wise teacher Slava (Slav-Yana) the enlightened nations began to call themselves Slavs.

Returning to the starting point, the spiritual Fathers of the Slavs

launched an enormous educational activity, covering the borders of Europe, Asia Minor and the belt of Asian lands, right down to the Pacific Ocean. Soon, the close circle of spiritual teachers created around the Fathers a special union of bright enlightened nations - Artania (from the Vistula to the Don, from Pripyat to the Black Sea), with the center on the Volyn Upland.

Proceeding from this, adepts of occultism have always been interested in Volyn, the Right Bank of Ukraine, as well as steppe sites with traces of Aryans right up to Tibet and Himalayas.

The opportunity to explore these lands to the German occultists was provided during the Second World War.

The studies were carried out by the well-known CC Institute of Occupations SS - "Ahnenerbe". But what did the scientists from Anenerbe on the most ancient Slavic lands seek?

In order to find the answer to this question, we will try to understand what the Ahnenerbe institute actually did, how it was created and what main goals were set before it.

Anenerbe originates from the mystical, black-magical German organizations Hermanenorden, Thule and Vril, imbued with the ideas of reanimation of Scandinavian, Gothic-Viking Odinism, but in a new form, later called Hitler's fascism.

These black-magical formations became the “three whales” of National Socialist ideology, gradually forming the doctrine of the existence in prehistoric times of a certain island of superhumans in the north of the planet - Arctis.

According to their conviction, such a superhuman civilization, by

which all the secrets of the universe and the universe were accessible, perished after a grandiose catastrophe. But part of its carriers, as if, miraculously saved.

Subsequently, the survivors mingled with other people (in the southeast) who had special knowledge, and which gave rise to the emergence of a race of new supermen — the ancestors of the Germans.

Hints at this, according to the adherents of the idea, are present in the "Avesta" - the oldest Zoroastrian source, which declares itself Aryan in spirit.

The task of finding the connections of the northern supermen with Arktida (Nordians) and ancient southeastern Aryans (Aryans), revealing the secret knowledge of the latter, was to become the cornerstone of the exploratory work of the new magical institute SS Anenerbe discovered in 1935 (full name "German Society for the study of ancient German history and the heritage of ancestors ").

In addition to Hitler, the Reichsführer SS Heinrich Himmler, the SS gruppenführer Hermann Wirth (“the godfather”) and the rasolog Richard Walter Dahr were the initiators of the creation of “Anenerbe”.

Anenerbe began purposefully looking for sources of "special knowledge", those that could contribute to the creation of a new superman with super power, super knowledge, absorbed the strength of the Norsemen and knowledge of the Aryans.

The traces of the existence of relations between the Nordians and Aryans, as the basis of the racial theory of the origin of the German people proclaimed in society (from two lines of supermen and wise men), began to search for the Ahnenerbe Institute all over the world - from the Atlantic and Scandinavia to Tibet and Africa.

All sorts of ancient manuscripts and manuscripts, artifacts and finds containing various historical information, materials on black magic, yoga, and theology were subject to accumulation and analysis. All that had even the slightest mention of the Nordians (and their odinism), the Aryans and Vedas (knowledge of the Old Men), ancient beliefs and states, all interesting artifacts, carefully collected and taken away to Germany.

The beginning of the war of Germany with the USSR in 1941 and the occupation of Ukraine allowed the researchers from Anenerbe to get to the land where, in the opinion of many pre-war researchers, clear traces of the Aryans were found.

Anenerbe was interested in the region of the Lower Dnieper, for example, the most ancient sanctuary of the Black Sea coast, the Stone Grave in Zaporozhye, with its numerous drawings and the so-called Proto-Sumerian inscriptions of 12-3 thousand BC. The ancient sites and tombs of the Scythians, who preserved innumerable treasures and ancient valuable artifacts, were not treated with attention.

But especially carefully were collected materials of archaeological research, which could be identified as Aryan. In this regard, scientists and mystics from "Anenerbe" were interested in kurgan complexes and information on burial materials.

Until the beginning of World War II in Ukraine, from the Western Bug to the Siversky Donets and the Don, a significant number of not plowed ancient barrows remained. At that time their number was in the thousands.

No less active, “Anenerbe” led the search in numerous dungeons and underground passages of ancient cities and towns of the Volyn-

Carpathian region. Scientists were interested in dungeons of ancient castles and monasteries, colorful ancient legends and tales.

It seems that the valuable materials of earlier Slavic times and later, especially of the period of the Carpathian Rurikovich - Daniil Galitsky and his entourage, fell into the hands of such researchers. Fighting with the centers of the Government and the Old Slavonic, Aryan system, Daniel heard many stories about the ancient dungeons of the Rakhman and Magi monasteries.

Legends of the 15th - 17th centuries, retellings from the so-called magnate circles and the local gentry - Ukrainian elders converted to Catholicism, could provide significant information for Anenerbe. At one time, they also carried out a search for ancient Slavic, Rakhman-Magi sacral things with the aim of using them in their occult and magical rituals.

"Anenerbe", probably, was known not only about the existence of a special ancient spiritual, Aryan culture in this region in 3-1 thousand BC, but also about the centers of dissemination of knowledge of the Government, Rakhman-Magi monasteries, and ancient Slavic states 1 thousand AD - Dulibskom and Roskom.

There is evidence that materials about the history of the Volyn-Carpathian region, the Slavic peoples inhabiting this territory, the encroachments on these territories of Rome, the Franks and the Germans were kept in the repositories of the secret societies of Europe until the end of the 20th century.

Evidence of the presence of such materials became purposeful and, most likely, quite successful, German searches for ancient artifacts in the labyrinths of the dungeons in the Podolia, Carpathian and Volyn regions.

And there were a significant number of such labyrinths and dungeons, until the period of targeted destruction by the forces of the NKVD (by order of the USSR government) in 1947-1953. Under the pretext of "decay" and in the heat of the struggle with the national movement (Bandera), they were mercilessly blown up, bombarded, lamas, and flooded.

Confirmation of the abundance of finds exported "Anenerbe" from the territory of Ukraine are some reports from the NKVD, as well as indirect information from eyewitnesses of that time. Eyewitnesses talked about special German trains for sending to Germany some things extracted from dungeons or taken from the storerooms of local museums.

Even more interesting is the information on the re-storage of artifacts that scientists from Anenerbe did not manage to remove from Ukraine. They, under the pressure of the advancing red army, the Germans hastily hid near the railroads, at the foot of the castles, near the highways, in holes dug by the Soviet prisoners of war.

After the war, there were rumors that “Anenerbe” got to some very deep and ancient dungeons, where they found some particularly unique things, as if they were truly Aryan. But scientists either couldn’t or didn’t want to ship them to Germany. The imminent end of the war in 1944 caused in the Ahnenerbe circles concern about the expediency of their efforts for the dying Reich.

Most likely, because of mercantile interests, such scientists did not want to send what they found to Germany, and hid everything valuable for themselves and for the future.

Based on this, it seems that a significant part of the found, “Ahnenerbe” did not have time, or did not want, to export to Germany. Perhaps, it was hidden that did not represent jewelery or aesthetic value,

but it had significant historical value (which is characteristic of the oldest finds from simple metals and ceramics).

Due to the closeness of many archives of the NKVD and other security agencies, a comprehensive assessment has not yet been made of what could have been found by Anenerbe in Ukraine. The information available is superficial and has not been thoroughly investigated. There are still no detailed inventories of those taken and found in Germany.

The reason for this, most likely, was the fact that the victors, including Soviet generals and officers (including the NKVD), left without consequences by the leadership of the USSR for political reasons, were captured in Germany without a systemic seizure.

At the same time, the scale of the finds is confirmed by the fact of the intensification of the extensive search works of Anenerbe precisely towards the end of the occupation of Ukraine (1944), with the exception of the last weeks or days preceding the approach of the front line.

With a high degree of confidence, it can be assumed that the finds on the territory of Ukraine were extremely interesting and promising. They pointed to the fidelity of the direction for “Anenerbe” in search of the Aryan trail. Scientists, most likely, found the main thread to the mystery of the Aryans, but did not have time to unwind it.

And if it were not for the legitimate defeat of fascism, “Anenerbe” would have had enough time to get to the very secret, hidden in the lower levels of the Rahman-Magi, Old Slavonic, Aryan tombs and pantheons of great Aryans.

What conclusions can be drawn from the attempts to search for the Aryan heritage by the adherents of German occulism?

Trying to hide their true intentions, adherents of German Nazism surprised the world with the creation of a strange hybrid theory about the "union" of black adherents of the anti-world and the light Aryans. At the same time, they presented the phenomenon of the Nordians (read the German magicians) to the world as the result of the development and activity of this fantastic "union".

In reality, the emergence of Nordicism, as the German branch of Occultism, is the result of the aggressive influence of anti-world adherents on the peoples of northern Europe, a consequence of the long-lasting penetration of Scandinavian dark knowledge of Scandinavia from Central Asia, the strife and violence that turned the European population into slaves and supporters of occultists (“godlike” or ready).

The carriers of Nordia, Odinism and occult worshipers, Odin's troops (yaks-yags), and then their descendants, Goths and Vikings, presented themselves as the main enemies of the bright Slavic worldview and categorically did not accept the laws of the Creator-Svarog and the meaning of aryanism .

Is this not why the Veles Book constantly writes about the struggle of the Slavs against the Goths and their dark ideology of hatred?

Scientists of "Anenerbe", reviving odinism in the 30s-40s of the 20th century, blasphemously mixed everything they could: bright Aryan teachings and the predatory ideology of odinism, the image of the wise, bright Starots and the face of the evil, militant Norse (Goth and Viking).

The goal of such an action is also becoming clear: to try to steal and appropriate the ancient knowledge of the Aryans, to use Aryan artifacts, in fact all the holy heritage of the Slavic peoples, for long-term goals.

Thus, in the middle of the twentieth century, the chimera of pseudo-Aryanism was fashioned - the new Odinism, German fascism, which closed the true and bright face of the ancient Aryans, clear images of Slavic Starotzov-Rakhmanov.

This strange chimera presented from the peace-loving, loving Creator and Rule, the Aryans, some evil and bloodthirsty warriors, subjugators of nations by force of arms and black magic. She attributed to Aryans the ugly grimass of Nordia - the aggressive face of occult Odinism.

Since that time, the light Aryan signs and symbols (svargi and equilateral crosses), stolen by German national fascists, have become unjustifiably deprecated and identified with dark forces, and the word arias, with the suggestion of ocultists, has been artificially put into trouble and war for decades to come.

In an atmosphere of historical podtosovok and deception, the end of German fascism, unfortunately, did not become the end of the existence of currents of Odinism.

Odinism, in the new millennium, again shows its evil face, sticking to the ancient Slavs and attributing to it that with which the ancient Slavs have always fought, which they rejected - anger and belligerence, magic and occultism, dislike for the Government.

Using the vacuum of knowledge about Bright Iria, about the Law of Rule, about Starottsy-Rakhmans, about Aryans, about the true history of Slavs, Odinism, in the form of a new pseudo-Aryan, in the late 20th and early 21st centuries quietly and imperceptibly penetrated into many public pseudoslavian movements, pseudo-patriotic and religious organizations representing the hidden occlusion of Odinism in the form of "Slavic doctrine".

Disguised as Slavic, a new Odinism, using near-Slavic rhetoric and symbolism, glowing emotional extremism, killing cold human reason, began to push the world to solve problems with brute physical force and war, deception and hypocrisy.

Thus, the black forces of the anti-world bring their adherents to the new world conflict, to the new bloody sacrifice to the anti-world itself, to the triumph of pseudo-aryanism and one “justice”. That “justice” that rejects love and sympathy, service to the Creator and its laws, who desires the world’s bloody mess, the violence of aggression and elevated to absolute one greatness.

Let us recall that the highest Starottsy-Rakhmans, the ancient Aryans, always instilled in the peoples of the Earth love and nobility, the desire for spiritual growth and mutual understanding, the desire for a bright spiritual world and the welfare of peoples.

They taught to hear the Light Iriy and give prayers to him and the Creator, to live according to the Rules, to know the Rules, to praise the Rules.

They called for rejecting the temptations of the anti-world, opposed to spiritual thefts and slavery, taught to fight magic and occultism.

After all, for a bright person, the main thing is to understand the Creator's plan, to spiritually improve oneself and the environment, to strive to grow as a soul to the highest levels of Bright Iria, to be spiritually wise in each of our incarnations, to harmoniously coexist with everything bright in the world.

The highest teachers of antiquity, the Slavic sages and the Old Men, were therefore worshiped by Slavs as Aryans (highest confessors of

the Creator levels), because they knew that Arians would sit in Light Iria next to the Creator, along with the great Ancestors, Slava, Poryan, Orem, Dazhbat and Yasun they will help those bright people who care about the eternity of universal life.

The light knowledge of the Aryans will never serve dark purposes, but will be transferred exclusively to bright souls, those who could become true disciples and spiritual heirs of the great Fathers.

Mysterious Roman Dodecahedrons

Among the many outstanding inventions inherited from ancient mechanics and engineers, there are also mysterious objects, the purpose of which still causes controversy and doubt. The Roman dodecahedrons, of course, are small, hollow objects made of bronze or stone, having 12 flat pentagonal faces...

About the Roman dodecahedra became known not so long ago - about 200 years ago. They were created approximately in the II-IV centuries (and even earlier), but found only in the XIX century. Moreover, dodecahedrons were found on the territory of Central and Northern Europe in places that can be called the outskirts of the Roman Empire.

By the beginning of the XXI century, about a hundred of these unusual gizmos were found in excavations, mostly in Germany and France, but also in Great Britain, Holland, Switzerland, Austria, Hungary - in the territories that were once part of the northern Roman provinces.

Four to eleven

Hollow twelve hexagons made of bronze or stone have a circular

hole in each face, and 20 small “cones” (small balls located between the holes) in the corners. The diameter of the holes can be either the same or different. The hole diameter options for one dodecahedron are up to four.

Dimensions of dodecahedra range from 4 to 11 centimeters. They are set up so that they stand steadily on the plane in any position thanks to the “bumps”. Judging by the number of finds, they were once very common. So, one of these objects was found in a female burial, four - in the ruins of a Roman country house. The fact that many of them are found among the treasures confirms their high status: apparently, these little things were valued along with the jewels.

The big mystery is what exactly they were created for. Unfortunately, there are no documents on this account, starting from the time of their creation, so the purpose of these artifacts has not yet been established. Nevertheless, in the time that has elapsed since their discovery, many theories and assumptions have been put forward.

Researchers endowed them with a variety of functions: they are candlesticks (wax was found inside a single copy), dice, geodetic instruments, tools for determining the optimal sowing time, tools for calibrating water pipes, elements of an army standard, decorations for a rod or scepter, toys for tossing and catching a pole or simply geometric sculptures.

In general, archaeologists have put forward about 27 hypotheses, although they failed to prove any of them. For the sake of brevity, the abbreviation UGRO (from the English Unidentified Gallo-Roman Object - “unidentified Gallo-Roman object”) is now used in historical literature.

Astronomical determinant

According to one of the most recognized theories, Roman dodecahedrons were used as measuring devices, namely, as range finders

on the battlefield. Say, the dodecahedron was used to calculate the trajectories of missiles, and this explains the presence of different diameter holes on the pentagonal faces.

According to another theory, dodecahedrons were used as geodetic and leveling devices. However, none of these theories is supported by any evidence. There is also no explanation of how dodecahedrons could be used for this purpose.

More interesting is the hypothesis that the dodecahedrons served as astronomical measuring devices, with the help of which they determined the optimal time for sowing winter crops. According to researcher Vaheman, “the dodecahedron was an astronomical measuring device, with which it measured the angle of incidence of sunlight, and thus accurately determined one particular day in spring and one special day in autumn. The days thus defined seemed to be of great importance for agriculture.”

However, opponents of this theory point out that the use of dodecahedrons as measuring instruments of any kind seems impossible due to the lack of any standardization. After all, all the objects found had different sizes and designs.

However, among the many similar theories there is one very plausible. According to her, these objects refer not so much to the Roman conquerors, as to the culture of the local tribes and peoples who had been inhabiting the territories of Northern Europe and Britain since ancient times.

It is quite possible that there is some direct connection between the dodecahedrons of the Roman period and the many much older stone balls with regular polyhedrons cut out on their surface. Such polyhedron balls, dating from the period between 2500 and 1500 BC, are found in Scotland, Ireland and Northern England.

Around the same time, the construction of the famous megalithic complex called Stonehenge. No one still knows for sure what the purpose of this structure was. However, the clearly non-random arrangement of giant stones, tied to the cycles of the sun moving across the sky, suggests that Stonehenge served not only for religious and ritualistic rites (the most probable appointment), but also for astronomical observations. It is possible that the small stone balls-polyhedra played for the ancient inhabitants of Britain the role of "homemade Stonehenge", personifying some important spiritual ideas for them and the secrets of the world order.

The fact that dodecahedrons could be objects of precisely this purpose confirms the role of regular polyhedrons in the pictures of the universe created in Ancient Greece by the Pythagorean school.

Thus, in the Timeon Platonic dialogue, the four main elements of matter — fire, air, water, and earth — are represented as clusters of tiny particles in the form of regular polyhedra: the tetrahedron, octahedron, icosahedron, and cube. As for the fifth regular polyhedron, the dodecahedron, Plato mentions it in passing, noting only that this form was used “for sample” in creating the Universe, which has a perfect sphere shape.

According to scientists, this is an obvious reference to Pythagoras, who propagandized the idea that dodecahedrons formed "beams" on which a set of heavens was erected.

Twelve Facets of the Universe

In one of his early Fedon dialogues, Plato, through the mouth of Socrates, gives a “12-dimensional dodecahedron-like” description of a heavenly, more perfect earth that exists above the land of people: “It is said that the Earth, if you look at it from above, looks like a ball,

Stitched from 12 pieces of leather. " But in fact, this is a dodecahedron with 12 facets!

And in general, the dodecahedron was once considered by the Pythagoreans as a sacred figure, personifying the Universe or ether - the fifth element of the universe, in addition to traditional fire, air, water and earth. Thus, Iamblich, an ancient Neo-Platonist philosopher, head of the Syrian school of Neo-Platonism in Apamea, in his book “On Pythagorean Life,” states that Hippas from Metapont, who had disclosed to ordinary people the secret of the dodecahedron, was not only expelled from the Pythagorean community, but also honored by the cost of the dodecahedron. alive.

When Gippas died at sea during a shipwreck, everyone decided that this was the result of a curse: "They say that the deity itself was angry with the one who divulged the teachings of Pythagoras."

So, perhaps, the found dodecahedrons are cult objects, inherited from the secret sects of the Pythagoreans. It is known that this secret society carefully concealed its existence. It is possible that they also removed from the historical records any mention of dodecahedrons, considering them to be sacred figures explaining the meaning of the existing order of things.

However, the Pythagoreans could hide the true purpose of the dodecahedron, giving it a different purpose: for example, using it as a candlestick or a stand for storing writing pens.

In addition, the dodecahedron was the personification of the zodiac with its 12 signs. So, on the territory of Geneva, we found a cast lead dodecahedron with edges of 1.5 centimeters in length, covered with silver plates with the names of zodiac signs (“Virgo”, “Gemini”, etc.) in Latin.

This number of versions with certainty proves one thing: no one can understand the true purpose of the dodecahedron yet.

Mysteries of a Peking Man

The first skull of the Sinanthropus was found in the Zhoukoudian cave caves, located about 50-60 km from Beijing, by Chinese anthropologist Pai Wen Zhong in 1927. Excavations in the cave were conducted from 1927 to 1937, then were interrupted by the Second World War and resumed in 1949. They were conducted according to all prescribed rules, and in their course were described the skeletons of 40 individuals.

From the very beginning it was clear that a new kind of fossil people was found. Where is placed on the historical tree synanthropus? According to the datings made, it was attributed to the average Pleistocene, approximately between 900 thousand and 130 thousand years ago. Thus, the upper limit of its existence approached and, perhaps, even intersected with the existence of people of the modern type.

On closer examination, as well-known synologist and writer Alexey Maslov writes, it turned out that the synanthropist is not so far from modern people in its development. Outwardly, he was, of course, in our opinion, not very attractive: he had very heavy brow ridges, a strongly sloping forehead, that is, his face was terribly primitive.

But it was also strikingly modern. The volume of his brain was approaching the brain volume of modern homo sapiens. If the average brain volume of synanthropus was 1,075 cm3, then there were some individuals who had this indicator as high as 1,300 cm3, which is close to the modern man, who on average has a brain of 1,350 cm3.

That is, the synanthropus combined a completely modern brain and a primitive appearance. The growth of these hominids mainly varied in the range of 150-160 cm, the weight due to the dense build could reach 80-90 kg. The Sinanthropus did not live long and rarely stepped over a 35-year-old frontier.

Their teeth were also quite modern, although the root and incisors were somewhat wider than those of today's people, and bones of the limbs were almost the same as ours. The left brain lobe of the Peking people, where the motor centers of the right side of the body are located, was slightly larger compared to the right lobe.

Consequently, the synanthropic right hand was more developed than the left. In addition to plant foods, they consumed animal meat. The synanthropists had a relatively developed hostel culture, manufactured labor tools and were actively engaged in gathering.

In their large cave, Zhoukoudian burned a fire, which they maintained inextinguishable, as far as can be judged by sediment, for hundreds or even thousands of years.

DIRECT ANCESTOR OF THE CHINESE

It is curious that along with the Soviet and European reconstructions of the appearance of the synanthropus, which depict him, if not a half-monkey, then a sort of degenerate, there are reconstructions made by Chinese specialists.

The synanthropus is very similar to them ... to the modern Chinese. Is that with a strongly sloping forehead, slightly protruding jaws and sharply appearing brow ridges. Most of the anthropologists of the Middle Kingdom, in essence, believe that the synanthropist was "quite Chinese."

So, the patriarch of Chinese anthropology, a man, along with Pei Wenzhong, who discovered the synanthropus directly, Jia Lanpo has no doubt that not the remains of some kind of primitive man of homo erectus were found near Beijing, which lived 500-400 thousand years ago, but ready ancestor of the Chinese.

“The Peking man is already beginning to embody all the characteristics of the“ yellow race ”: the concave inside of the incisors, the characteristic base of the nose and the wide cheekbones. Thus, the Peking man was the ancestor of the modern Chinese.”

The American anthropologist of German origin, Franz Weidenreich, once focused on the fact that the incisors of synanthropes had a spade-like shape characteristic of the Mongoloids. This allowed him at the International Congress of Anthropologists, held in 1938 in Copenhagen, to declare that the Mongoloids and the American Indians originate directly from the Sinanthropus.

The synanthropus, like the Mongoloids, has scaphoid incisors, as well as walnut swellings on the lingual surface of the lower jaw. Thus, according to Weidenreich, the Mongoloids are descended independently of other people directly from the synanthropist himself who lived in Asia, that is, where the Mongoloids still live today.

Then, many anthropologists, including Soviet, joined Weidenreich's point of view. Among them were K. Kuhn, A. Tom, G. F. Debets, G. P. Grigoriev, and others. They significantly supplemented the argument of the so-called polycentrism, now also known as the theory of multi-regional anthropogenesis, or accepted it, albeit with many reservations.

Over time, scientists paid close attention to the fact that in modern Mongoloids the long bones of the extremities do not differ from the long bones in Caucasians, as is well known, originating from Cro-Magnons.

In synanthropes, the same long bones of the limbs were very thick and had a narrow brain canal.

Thus, all people had a single ancestor, a Cro-Magnon, and in a long-standing scientific dispute about the origin of mankind, the monocentrists are right. However, nowadays more and more researchers are inclined to believe that Asian finds generally destroy the usual notion of race formation.

In fact, we see not different races with a single source (for example, in Africa), but representatives of different groups of people who developed in parallel in different places and never crossed!

Synanthrop was distinguished by another feature — a powerful sagittal crest went along its skull from the forehead to the back of the head, which could be found in some types of Australopithecus or in modern gorillas. Developed masticatory muscles attached to this crest. In monkeys, they are usually covered with skin folds, but as soon as the creature rises on its hind legs, the crest begins to stand out clearly on the head.

As the same Maslov notes, isn't it why many ancient Chinese images show great wise ancestors and predecessors in the form of strange creatures with horns or a crest on their heads?

By virtue of their development, synanthropus could well be perceived as ancestors and sages by subsequent Chinese. In addition, the apparent extinction of the synanthropes somehow does not follow — they seem to dissolve in the new generation of humanity.

Perhaps this happened against the backdrop of a number of geological disasters in China, after which the old generation of synanthropes passed into the category of ancestors - now they were

remembered and worshiped.

CHINA - THE MOTHERLAND OF EUROPEANS?

In China, many interesting anthropological finds are being made. Thus, in the province of Hubei, in the Yongxian district, in 1989-1990 two skulls were discovered. This find even more confused ideas about the resettlement of ancient people.

Specialists from the Institute of Cultural Relics and Archeology from Wuhan City, the capital of Hubei Province, under the leadership of Li Tianyuan, identified them as homo erectus and determined their age to be 600 thousand years. The discovery, it would seem, was not surprising, but the most interesting, as is often the case, was hidden in the details.

In a striking way, the skulls from Yongxian, with their even more developed brow ridges, repeat the finds in Java, that is, they were closer to the Pithecanthropus, and not to the Peking man.

But this was not the only surprise: although the structure of the cheekbones of the skull is close to most Chinese skulls, however, fascial measurements showed their striking proximity to much later skulls, found in ... Europe.

Their striking proximity to homo heidelbergensis was established - a Heidelberg man who allegedly gave rise to two types of homo sapiens at once: modern humans and Neanderthals who died about 30-40 thousand years ago.

At present, anthropologists also know such predecessors of a Peking man as the Sinanthropus Lan-Tyan from Central China (1.15-1.13 Ma) and an even more ancient Sinanthropus from Danau (South-West China), who lived 1.8-1, 6 million years ago. So, Chinese experts

sometimes make assumptions that the Chinese nation is already about a million years old, or even more.

And if we take into account the existence of the skull of a man of Heidelberg from Yongxian, then it may even turn out that China is the oldest homeland of not only the Mongoloid, but also the Caucasoid race. Not a fact, of course, but not excluded.

The civilization of giants on earth

Numerous historical finds give reason to think that it is possible in the distant past (very distant), on Earth there was a highly developed civilization, which perished as a result of a natural disaster of world scale.

According to historians, the creator of this ancient civilization could become a race of giants. As evidence of this statement are considered numerous megalithic structures located on all continents. None of the modern engineers can determine the ways and means by which these unique structures could be built.

The size of the creations of the gigantic race is staggering - what only the Baalbek terrace in Lebanon is worth. It is located near Beirut. The center of the whole composition is the temple of Jupiter. This structure is composed of their huge, neatly polished, blocks. Not far away, there are three more colossal processed blocks called “trilithons”: the length of each is 21 meters, the height is 5 meters, the width is 4 meters, and the weight is 800 tons. The blocks fit so well to each other that even the tip of a sharp knife cannot be inserted between them. In order to at least move the “triliths”, it is necessary to have combined forces of at least 40 thousand people!

At the same time, it is interesting to what purpose these mega-equipment was built. According to ancient Arabian legends, the terrace belonged to King Nimrod, who was ruling in that part of Lebanon at the time. In one of the manuscripts it is said that it was Nimrod who instructed the giants to restore the Baalbek terrace after the flood.

No less curious is another complex built by the giants - this is the Mexican city of the gods Teotihuacan. It is located near Mekiho. It is much more ancient than even the Aztec civilization. There is a version that the city was built in order to turn people into gods. The layout of the "city of gods" is similar to the model of the solar system. If the Temple of Quetzalkratl can be represented as the Sun, then the rest of the planets, including even Uranus and Pluto, can be found to match on the plan of the city. Consequently, even then the inhabitants of the city knew about the structure of the solar system! But, probably, after the departure of the giants, the city fell into neglect and gradually began to collapse.

Perhaps, if neither these cyclopean structures, no one would have suggested that there was a race of giants. And so, a legend was created about powerful, rational, strong giants who built on earth a kingdom of harmony and justice. An interesting fact is that every nation that inhabits Earth today has legends about giants.

With the question of where did the giant people come from and where did they disappear, you can refer to the sources of world religion. Thus, in the Bible there are such words: "At that time there were giants on the earth, especially since the time when the sons of God began to go in to the daughters of men, and they began to give birth to them. These are strong, long glorious people. And the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great on earth, and that all the thoughts and thoughts of their heart were evil at all times. The Lord repented that he had created man on earth, and he slandered in His heart. And the Lord said: I will destroy from the face of the earth the men whom I have created, from man to

cattle, and the birds of the heavens and the birds of the heavens I will destroy.

It is also easy to find in the Koran the story of how Noah built the ark, and the giants living on Earth at that time said to him: “The Flood will not harm us. We are too tall. Our feet are so big that we can block the rivers with them. ” But the Great Flood swallowed up self-confident giants. There are such records in the Babylonian books of sacred information: “Noah saved the giant Og by allowing him to fit behind the lattice door of the ark. Through this lattice, Noah served him food every day. ” The rescued giant, in consequence, had offspring - the giants began to live on Earth again. The largest colony of giants settled in Palestine. When Moses led the Jews away from Egypt, he sent intelligence agents to Palestine and this is what they said: “... There we also saw giants..., from a gigantic family; and we were in our eyes before them like locusts, so were we in their eyes. ”

It is interesting that in one of the books of Moses it is said that the bed of the king of Rephaim is preserved - its length is “nine cubits males” (about 4.5 meters). By the way, the word “Rephaim” in Hebrew means “giant”, and the name of the king was Og Vassansky. Isn’t that the giant saved by Noah?

The famous historian of antiquity, Herodotus, who lived in the V century BC, told about the amazing discoveries of human skeletons of enormous size. So, a blacksmith from Tegea, digging a well, discovered the skeleton of a man, whose height exceeded 2.5 meters. Residents of Sparta wore military campaigns instead of the banner of the skeleton of a giant warrior named Orest (height 3.5 meters). In the records of Josephus Flavius, a Roman historian who lived in the first century BC, describes the appearance of giants: "Their bodies were huge, and their faces were so different from ordinary human faces, that it was amazing to see them, but to hear, as they say, scary." The Syrian scientist Pausanias ((II century AD), claimed that at the bottom of the river Sront a very well-preserved human skeleton was found, having a height of at least 5.5 meters.

The Spanish conquistadors, who distinguished themselves during the conquest of America, saw a huge human skeleton in one of the Maya temples. Cortez was so shocked that he ordered the Pope of Rome to be sent across the ocean. This finding did not correspond to the official opinion of the Church that the first man Adam was about 4 meters tall, 3 meters tall.

Numerous finds of skeletons of giants in the Caucasus can confirm the assumption that the region of the Caucasus Mountains became another place of concentration of the settlements of giants. Perhaps this is not by chance. After all, it was in the mountains that the giants, whom Noah did not take into his ark, tried to escape from the Flood. Two residents of Georgia, who were looking for adventures in mountain caves, discovered the skeleton of a four-meter giant, near which there was a weapon in the form of an ancient sword from some unknown metal.

But not only have such finds indicated the existence of giants in the distant past of our planet. The confirming facts include the discovery of

numerous imprints in rocks, the formation of which have from tens to hundreds of millions of years.

Thus, the imprint of a giant foot 80 cm long was found in Tanzania. A similar find boasts and America. There in Nevada, due to the last torrential rains, a few petrified tracks opened. The distance between the two tracks was about 2 meters, and the length of the giant's foot was 50 cm. The age of the find was determined to be 250 million years.

The prints found not far from the Indian city Delta are considered even more unexpected gains: on the one hand a piece of rock is a trace of a quite modern sandal, and on the other side of the same piece - petrified trilobite! The age of the find is 600 million years.

The archaeological and historical discovery in Turkmenistan near the village of Khoja-pil-ata is considered to be no less interesting - there is a chain of five-fingered tracks among 2500 traces of dinosaurs. The giant who left these traces must be at least 5 meters tall. By the way, there were others near the giant's tracks - the person who left them was about 1.7 meters tall.

It should be noted that today there are a lot of versions about where the tribe of giants appeared on Earth and possible causes of their disappearance are considered.

So, this is fiction, or true, but according to one version, residents of the legendary mainland Lemuria had a height of about 50 meters. It is assumed that the mainland was split into several parts as a result of a natural disaster. A tribe of giants was isolated from each other. In consequence, as a result of degradation, the growth of giants began to decline gradually. The so-called reverse evolution took place: “... initially, humanity looked a little different than we did. World myths abound with mighty giants ... It is logical to assume that since we, like

our smaller brethren, are degradants of once-living intelligent beings, it means that they (giants) are much more perfect than us. Myths about the golden age, heroes and powerful giants sound in unison with this assumption. ”

If we assume that the giants, "grinding", turned into modern humans. Then a rather logical conclusion suggests itself - after the next Flood, Homo sapiens can “be degenerated” to a height less than modern dwarfs...

Janissaries - "Lions of Islam"

In the XIII century, the Turkic nomadic tribes driven back by the Mongol invaders entered the service of the Seljuk sultan, having received from him a small feudal possession on the border with Byzantium and creating their emirate. After the collapse of the Sultanate in the XIV century, Osman I became the ruler of the emirate, who gave his name to the new state, which became famous for his conquests with the participation of special detachments of regular infantry - the Janissaries.

Yeni Chery - New Army

The new Ottoman state for several years won the possession of Byzantium in Asia Minor. Capturing the Dardanelles, the Turks began to conquer the Balkan Peninsula.

The Ottoman army was a rabble of various nomadic tribes that came from the depths of Asia and believed in the power of Mahomet. The siege of the Byzantine fortresses demanded a large force of disciplined infantry. But no free Turk-nomad, accustomed to fighting horse, did not want to fight on foot.

After unsuccessful attempts to create infantry formations of Muslim mercenaries, Sultan Orhan organized in 1330 a detachment of infantrymen from thousands of captured Christians who converted to Islam. In an effort to make such detachments a striking force in wars against the gyauri (“infidels”), the sultan tried to give them a religious character by linking with the Dervish Order of Bektashi, similar to the European model of the military monastic order. According to legend, the head of the order, Haji Bektashi, at the inauguration ceremony of the detachment, pulled his sleeve off his white robe, put it on the head of one of the soldiers, called that “Yeni Cheri” (“New Warrior”) and gave his blessing. So the Janissary had a headdress in the form of a cap with a hanging piece of fabric attached to the back.

Janissary infantry became the main force of the Ottoman army. When Sultan Murad I (1359-1389 years) finally formed a way to its acquisition. From now on, the corps were recruited from the children of the Christian faith who were captured during the campaigns to the Balkans and underwent special military training. The recruitment of children into the janissaries has become one of the obligations of the Christian population of the empire - devshirme (blood tax). Special officials selected in special “brideglasses” in each Christian community one-fifth of all boys aged seven to fourteen years old (the so-called Sultan’s share) for service in the Janissary Corps.

Sultan's sons

All selected boys were circumcised and converted to Islam. At the first stage, they were sent to educate families of Turkish peasants and artisans in Asia Minor. There they mastered the Turkish language, Muslim customs and learned to different types of hard physical labor. A few years later they were enrolled in the preparatory detachment of the Janissary Corps. This stage of training lasted seven years and consisted

of physical training and training in the possession of many types of weapons. By the age of 20, boys became real “warriors of Islam”.

Upon reaching 21, they were taken to the barracks of the Janissaries. The recruits lined up on the square, and the dervishes, their future spiritual mentors, took from them an oath of allegiance to Islam. After this, the former slaves became the recruits of the elite troops of the Sultan. Mushtra was harsh and ruthless, combat training took place under the drumming. Under the influence of eyewitness accounts in Europe, the myth of the invincibility of the Turkish army was born.

The Janissaries called themselves "the hand and wing of the Ottoman dynasty." Sultans took care of them, personally delving into their learning and life, and often used in court conflicts and in suppressing insurrections.

Janissaries did not shave their beards, they were forbidden to marry and do housework. The greatest shrine they revered was a copper cauldron. Each hundred had its own boiler, standing in the middle of the camp or in the courtyard of the barracks. In front of the cauldron, the recruits swore an oath of allegiance to the Sultan, and here the guilty were whipped. The hundred who lost their cauldron in the war were considered dishonorable. The Janissaries believed death was better than such a shame.

Eating each time turned into a complex ritual. In peacetime, a solemn procession accompanied the cauldron with food from the kitchen to the barracks. Then the warriors sat down around the boiler. Here they spent their free time in the evenings. Europeans did not understand this ritual, but for the Janissaries it contained a deep meaning. The boiler was a guarantee that they would be fed. The gate of the Meat Bazaar in the capital was decorated with a proud and expressive inscription: “Here the Sultan feeds the Janissaries”.

The mob that became the elite

In the heyday of the Ottoman Empire stretched from Gibraltar to the Caspian Sea and from Transylvania to the Persian Gulf. Its capital was Istanbul (Constantinople), taken by the Turks in 1453. Janissaries, whose total number reached almost 200 thousand, besieged the fortress and smashed the crusader troops against them, conquering the glory of invincible warriors. Their attacks were accompanied by music played by the orchestra on copper pipes, drums and drums, causing panic to the enemies. The janissary chapel became the prototype of the military brass bands of many armies.

In the 16th century, military degradation of the Janissary army began. From a well-trained, disciplined and cohesive unit, it turned into a privileged caste of Praetorians who did not have the fighting spirit and military qualities of the old days. The reason for this was a departure from the original principles of its acquisition. In the janissary army began to take children of noble Turks, who were not prepared for the service. Celibacy was canceled. Married Janissaries were allowed to live in their homes, and then the unmarried refused to remain in the barracks and obey strict discipline. As a result, the corps became a hereditary institution. During military campaigns, janissaries often refused to fight, preferring to engage in looting and extortion.

Lion hunt

By the end of the 18th century, Turkish troops began to suffer multiple defeats. A well-trained Russian army trashed them on land and at sea. The janissary infantry wanted neither to learn military tactics, nor to master new weapons. Ambassadors of Bonaparte, flirting with the Turkish Sultan Selim III, gave him cannons on wheels, and Mikhail Kutuzov, who was Russian ambassador to Turkey after being wounded,

informed the empress about the weakness of the janissaries.

Understanding that the army must be reformed, the Sultan invited French military advisers and secretly began to prepare new troops in one of the quarters of Istanbul - “Nizam-and Djedid”. At this time, Bonaparte began hiking in Europe, and then moved to Russia. Turkey quietly reformed its army.

On June 14, 1826, the Janissaries were ultily announced that “they will no longer see mutton until they have studied the order of battle following the example of the armies of European yachurs”.

- We are not giaours, and we will not disgrace! - answered the janissaries and pulled their boilers from the barracks. The dancing dervishi-bektashi appeared on the square, tearing off the sleeves from their rags to the headbands of the janissaries. Waiting for food, they "scattered through the streets, robbing and attacking all the people who came across them." Bravurno and wildly played orchestras.

Sultan Mahmud II ordered the withdrawal of new well-trained troops with guns from the barracks. Thousands of janissaries were shot with canister in the square. Many hid in basements, in attics and even in wells, but they were found everywhere and killed. For the entire week in a row, the Sultan’s executioners worked without rest:

they chopped heads, hung them up, choked them with laces, cut the Janissaries into many pieces. An eyewitness wrote: “A few days in arbs and carts they took out the dead bodies of the Janissaries, who were thrown into the waters of the Bosphorus. They sailed on the waves of the Sea of Marmara, and the surface of the waters was so covered with them, that the corpses even impeded the navigation of ships..."

Legendary Atlantis

The legendary Atlantis was considered the fourth civilization that existed on our planet. Since then, more than 3 billion years have passed, but the mystery of the Atlanteans still stirs the minds of people. The waters of the oceans then rose, flooding whole continents, then retreating, giving the land more land, but Atlantis remained buried under the water of one of the largest terrestrial oceans. It is assumed that in antiquity Atlantis was located on huge islands in the Atlantic and the Pacific Ocean.

Its size can be imagined if you mentally combine the territories of modern Asia and Libya. The Atlanteans managed to create a technically powerful state. Atlantis looked like a huge island, surrounded by several circles, which had a defensive purpose. The state was defended by sturdy stone walls, numerous bridges and high security towers.

Plato claimed that Atlantis was created by Poseidon. His wife was an ordinary earthly woman named Clayto. The family had ten sons. The most important child was considered to be a boy named Atlant. But the rest of the children were not left without possessions, they became the founders of the royal dynasties.

To surround Atlantis with water rings was the idea of Poseidon. Numerous crossings and bridges connected all the rings. The very capital of the Atlanteans was small in size - about 1 km. in diameter, not counting the suburbs.

At its peak, the population of Atlantis was just over one million people. The ancient philosopher Plato considered the Athenian state the main competitor of the Atlanteans. There were rather complicated relations between the two states, but the strongest natural catastrophe “reconciled” them - for a very short time Atlantis was wiped off the face

of the Earth. But, Athens also suffered a devastating effect.

It is surprising that the Atlanteans, being a highly developed nation, did not attach importance to the fact that the main lands of the state are located in a seismically active zone.

In the center of Atlantis were the main shrines of the Atlanteans, surrounded by golden walls - temples dedicated to Clayto and Poseidon. The temples were very majestic. Gold and silver were present in their jewelry in large quantities. A large number of statues, among which the composition depicting the god who controls the chariot, with a drawn six horses, stood out.

Atlanta possessed rational thinking, loved to fantasize and philosophize. In their free time from work, the inhabitants of Atlantis preferred to communicate with friends and relatives. Favorite topics were the reasoning about their role in the Universe. Atlanta had a developed intuition, could feel the world around them, owned telepathy. It was common for them to transmit their thoughts over long distances. So the Atlanteans, thanks to their mental abilities, could share experience and information even with alien inhabitants. They easily comprehended the laws of mechanics, physics, and chemistry. Due to this, they built amazing aircraft and technical devices, the principle of action of which we can hardly even fantasize. Among the Atlanteans there were people who were considered "industrialists". They had a massive, athletic body structure and their main duties were mining and military service to protect the borders of Atlantis.

Externally, the Atlanteans looked unusually (from our point of view): about six meters tall, seven toes, six hands on each, broad shoulders with an elongated body, huge eyes, slightly flattened nose, lips wide.

The inhabitants of Atlantis can be considered long-lived - the period of life was about a thousand years. The political system of the state of the Atlanteans could be defined as democracy: the ruler was elected by vote - the term of state leadership by one person ranged from 200 to 400 years, the Atlanteans also had a single language.

Despite their good physical shape and advanced technology, the Atlanteans were not a warlike people. They did not wage any wars, they did not have slavery, it was a very peaceful people.

Clothing and jewelry can say a lot about the people. Since Atlantis was in warm latitudes, the inhabitants also wore light attire. Women's fashion was not much different from men's: loose wide blouses, overalls and trousers, sandals on her legs. Atlanta believed that the level of spiritual energy depended on the length of the hair on the head, so everyone had lush and long hairstyles.

All the Atlanteans were not indifferent to jewelry and decorated themselves with gold, silverware and precious stones. Gradually, the Atlanteans mastered the northern territories and they needed warm clothes: thick shirts with sleeves, pants, insulated jackets and long warm skirts (for women), shoes with fur, warm hats. It seems that the Atlantes when choosing clothes in the first place was the convenience and practicality of clothes.

The Atlantes had a very high standard of maintaining morality in the family - they chose a mate for life. For marriage, they turned to the priest, who penetrated into the “essence of their souls” and determined the compatibility of the couple. If the priest endorsed the marriage, he gave them a pair of bracelets that had to be worn on the forearm. Usually the family was in complete harmony: the children were taught to love their parents and tried to take care of them. The children studied science at the temples. There they were taught mathematics, astronomy and

writing. The most favorite subject was telepathy - learning to transfer thoughts over a distance. The children went on to further studies at the university in the capital of Atlantis, the City of the Golden Gate. Each immediately chose his specialization: mineralogy, geology, mathematics, medical art, occult science, etc.

The transfer of knowledge and skills to the younger generation allowed the atlants not only to maintain a high technological level of their civilization, but also to constantly raise it. So far not so much evidence can be cited in support of these facts. But it is permissible to say with certainty that the riddles of such a work of Atlanteans as the pyramids have not yet been solved.

One of the proverbs says: "All things are afraid of time, but time is afraid of the pyramids."

Numerous pyramidal constructions, which are located on almost all continents of the Earth, have long caused a lot of assumptions about their true purpose. By the way, the pyramids were found at the bottom of the oceans! For example, it was in the so-called Bermuda Triangle. Man-made pyramids are also found in Egypt, Australia, Mozambique, Mexico, Namibia, Brazil, China, and Russia.

Why did the ancient builders of the pyramids stop on the pyramidal form of their giant structures? No one can answer this question yet. But scientists are confident enough to say that the pyramid is not an ordinary geometric figure. The fact is that such a form allows not only accumulating energy, but also makes it possible to focus it. Most visitors to the pyramids of Giza noted a surge of strength, and sometimes they speak about the emergence of amazing visions, as it were, from the past or a completely different world. Some pyramid enthusiasts manage to build pyramidal structures right in their courtyards, using them as an object for their own recovery, “recharging” food and water.

If you look closely at the placement of the pyramids around the globe, we can say that this could be a thoughtful and effective system, the purpose of which is either in the accumulation of energy or in the global defense of the planet. The fact that the inhabitants of Atlantis possessed deep knowledge in the field of energy management is known from ancient manuscripts. It is possible that the Atlantean civilization died due to a technological disaster that occurred - it could be either an explosion or an uncontrolled energy release that not only destroyed the land of the Atlanteans, but also changed the geography of the Earth.

As the ancient historian Hermes Trismegist believed, there was a connection between the mysterious catastrophe and the pyramids. He claimed that the Atlanteans used pyramids for energy storage on a huge scale and created portals to other dimensions. According to the ancient historian, the Atlanteans, to put it mildly, "went too far" - they decided that they had reached the level of their sovereignty and decided to open the way to the forbidden worlds. It was very dangerous - such contact could destroy our world. In addition, the Supreme ruler of the Atlanteans decided to change the magnetic poles of the Earth. A chain of dangerous and erroneous decisions led to the destruction of Atlantis. The fact that no one else suffered from the actions of the "overblown" Atlantes indicates that the passage to the forbidden worlds was not open.

It is not excluded that at some instant the ruler of the Atlanteans realized his mistake and decided to sacrifice his people to save all life on Earth. It could well have happened that some Atlanteans managed to escape and found new civilizations, transferring to them some of their knowledge.

It seems that many pyramids still perform their functions. For example, all the mysterious events taking place in the Bermuda Triangle can be attributed to the functioning of the pyramids at the bottom of the

Atlantic. Unexplained disappearances of ships and airplanes, as well as the appearance of mysterious objects in the sky over many of the settlements are known. Maybe all this is connected with the work of the reactors left from the ancient civilization that support the portals between other dimensions?

It is clear that many of the research results of mysterious artifacts, which can rightly be attributed to the pyramids, are classified by the military and governments of countries. Only small crumbs of information on this subject can be obtained.

Nowadays, numerous technical devices have appeared that allow us to explore the bottom of the seas and oceans: the design of deep-sea bathyscapes has improved; reliable scuba gears and costumes have appeared. This allows you to open all new and new secrets and riddles. These include the sinking of the two oceans, the amazing and mysterious Atlantis.

Technique in antiquity

In the XIII century, the monks of the Franciscan Order were considered the most educated people. So the brother of this order - Roger Bacon gained fame as an outstanding English scientist and philosopher. In his “Message about the secret actions of art and nature and the insignificance of magic,” the scientist monk argued that in ancient times humanity had many wonderful technical devices that were thousands of years ahead of their time.

Thus, he described the existence of "large ships without rowers, who crossed rivers and seas, managed by one person, and with greater speed than if they were filled with rowers"; “Bridges over rivers without supports or any support”; “Instruments for flight: so that a person would

sit in the middle of the instrument, rotating an invention”; "Wagons that moved without animals with unimaginable swiftness"; "Tools with which one person can forcibly attract a thousand people to himself against their will."

Bacon had an accurate description of a “small-sized instrument that lifts and lowers unimaginable weights. ... with the help of a tool with a height of three fingers and the same width, a person could save himself and his loved ones from any danger of imprisonment, and rise and descend. " Until now, researchers of the Franciscan works cannot explain how a monk could get access to descriptions of the most ancient technological devices. But traces of their use in ancient times were found in different parts of our planet.

We can safely say that the tool owned by the legendary King Solomon was an Old Testament high-tech. In the chronicles of the "king of kings" it is said: "Solomon had a wonderful worm called" Shamir ". This worm possessed the properties of tesla and granil. With the help of "Shamir" hemmed a front stone for the temple and the house of Solomon and cut the gems for koshen. The worm was large with barley grain, and the hardest objects could not resist its miraculous properties. They kept him wrapped in wool cotton wool in a lead vessel filled with barley bran. ” With confidence, it can be argued that it was used in the construction of the famous shrine of all Jews - the Jerusalem Temple. We received information that God forbade Solomon to use an iron tool in building the temple: “And when this House was built, they built it from imported solid stones; neither the hammer nor the ax, no iron cannon could be heard in the House when it was built.”

Really "Shamir" was an analogue of a modern laser !!! This is what the author, Rabbi Zamir Cohen, wrote in the book “Torah and Science”: “Recently, the use of beams for cutting various materials has been expanding more and more, which allows us to produce it with greater

accuracy and purity. Today, lasers are used in many industries, from diamond processing to operating theaters. Although radiation, like electricity, is common in nature, science has learned about these phenomena recently, and has managed to use them only in our century. Lasers began to make and use only a few decades ago. And now, it turns out, almost three thousand years ago, when King Shlomo (Solomon) built the First Temple, the Torah sages knew about the possibility of using beams to cut hard materials. ” Cohen believed that “Shamir” used some kind of radiation for cutting stones: “one should just keep Shamir opposite the right place, and the radiation coming from him would cut the stone”. And the fact that it was necessary to store “Shamir” in a lead vessel indicates a possible radioactive emission emitting by this device.

By the way, this unique cutting tool went to Solomon from the prophet Moses. This device was used by Moses to cut the names of generations of the Jewish people on precious stones long before the construction of the temple of Solomon. Consequently, the device was brought from Egypt. Interestingly, the Egyptian trail can be traced to the path of many unique technological finds dating back to the times of very distant antiquity.

The description of another Egyptian find, or rather, an artifact - the Ark of the Covenant is very similar, in terms of technology, described above, "Shamir".

The ark was also dangerous to the health of those who approached it. Serving him, even had to wear special protective clothing.

Not only is the fact that at present the Ark of the Covenant is allegedly stored somewhere in the treasury of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, but the access to it for scientists is closed. But many secrets related to holy relics, such as the Ark of the Covenant, could be revealed, and be taken care of by qualified specialists.

But it remains to speculate only on the information that has become known through the work of numerous historians, archaeologists and other specialists in different branches of knowledge.

If we consider that man exists on earth for several million years, and our civilization has tens of thousands of years, we can assume that before us there could have been other highly developed civilizations and amazing artifacts refer to the times of their life activity on Earth.

These ancient artifacts include “Corrugated Balls” from South Africa. For several decades, miners from this region of the earth have found mysterious and very strange metal balls - about three sentiments in diameter, having three parallel grooves in the middle. The balls found can be attributed to two types: some are made of a single piece of metal of a bluish color and have white spots, the second is hollow inside, filled with an unknown white substance. The rock in which these amazing balls are found belongs to the far Precambrian era (which is about 2.8 billion years ago!). Today, even there is no version for what purpose they could create.

Another interesting historical find is the Ik Stones. In the 1930s, they accidentally fell into the hands of Dr. Javier Cabrera. He became so interested in them that later, I collected a collection of 1100 such stones. Experts have determined their age - from 500 to 1500 years. On these stones are images of idols, scenes of surgical treatment, and most often pictures of a sexual nature (this is typical of the culture of the ancients). Some of the stones also have colorful images of dinosaurs, stegosaurs, brontosaurs, ptehosaurs and unknown three-legged creatures. I wonder who their ancient "artists" could see them to portray?

Also, a lot of interest and finding pearl divers near Crete. So, on the wreck among the bronze and marble statues there was an unusual

device consisting of screws and castors. On the device there is an inscription about the date of manufacture - this is the 80th year BC! Experts believe that this device is an analogue of the astrolabe, used by astronomers. The device found is even more complicated than the astrolabe, so it could be used much more widely than modern researchers assume. At the same time, according to ancient records, such mechanisms became known to people only from 1575!

Today, even children are known rechargeable batteries. But there is a similar battery, made two thousand years ago! It was called the “Baghdad Battery” and was found on the ruins of the Parthian period. The device itself consists of a clay vessel, inside of which is placed a copper cylinder with an oxidized iron core. Experts are sure that if you fill this artifact with alkaline solution or acid, it will work like a regular battery. It is assumed that it was this battery that was used by the ancient craftsmen to cover objects with gold by electrolytic deposition. If so, then why so little evidence was found for the existence of such a progressive technology on Earth in deep antiquity?

It is impossible not to tell about the discovery of American geologists, who in 1961 were engaged in the search for minerals in the mountains of California. They found an amazing stone, assessing it as semi-precious. Cutting the stone, geologists discovered a porcelain object inside. In the center of the porcelain "filling" of the stone was a metal rod. Scientists have suggested that it took Mother Nature at least 500 thousand years to put this porcelain miracle in stone. No one doubts that the item found in the stone is a technical product of a highly developed civilization. Upon further investigation of the ancient device, it turned out that the porcelain core was located inside the hexagon case, from one of the ends of the object there was a thin spring (like a modern spark plug). This subject has caused heated controversy among specialists. But, unfortunately, it is impossible to continue the study of this artifact - it was irretrievably lost.

Among other things, today there is a lot of discussion about a small model of an airplane found in 1898 in the tomb of Sakkvara. Experts, examining the subject from the point of view of aerodynamics, argue that the shape of the wing, fuselage and tail perfectly repeat the characteristics of the American Space Shuttle.

We all at school all studied the fossils that were formed many thousands of years ago. But there are fossils that can not be explained in any way. It is about the imprint of the human palm on limestone, which dates back to 110 million years. And, in the Canadian Arctic, an imprint of a human finger was also found, referring to the period as the imprint of the above palm. In Utah, an imprint of a foot sandal was found - the age of the find is 600 million years ago.

According to historical science, 65 million years ago, mankind did not know how to handle metal. But, in France, mysterious metal pipes were found in the deposits of the Cretaceous period. There is no doubt that they were created by the hands of intelligent beings.

From all this we can assume several options:

- on Earth reasonable people appeared long before that period, than we claim;
- on Earth lived, in ancient times, other highly developed civilizations;
- we do not have methods that can more accurately determine the age of the finds.

It should also be noted that today there is no consistent and convincing explanation for any of the artifacts found and listed above. But, in any case, all the artifacts found may encourage experts to reconsider and rethink the real life story on our planet. And we are waiting for more interesting sensations!

What were the Sumerians?

Sumerians - were "blackheads". This people, who appeared in the south of Mesopotamia in the middle of the 3rd millennium BC from nowhere, is now called the “progenitor of modern civilization,” and no one even suspected him of it until the middle of the 19th century. Time erased Schumer from the annals of history and, if it were not linguists, perhaps we would never have learned about Sumer.

But I will probably begin with the year 1778, when the Dane Carsten Niebuhr, who led the expedition to Mesopotamia of 1761, published copies of the cuneiform royal inscription from Persepolis. He first suggested that the 3 columns in the inscription are three different types of cuneiform containing the same text.

In 1798, another Dane, Friedrich Christian Munter, put forward a hypothesis that 1st class letters are alphabetic old Persian writing (42 characters), 2nd class is a syllable letter, 3rd is ideographic signs. But the first who managed to read the text was not a Dane but a German, a Latin teacher in Göttingen, Grotendand. He was attracted by a group of seven cuneiform signs. Grotendfend suggested that this word was Tsar, and the rest of the signs were selected on the basis of historical and linguistic analogies. In the end, Groteinfand made the following translation:

Xerxes, King of the Great, King of Kings Darius, King, son, Achaemenides.

However, only 30 years later, Frenchman Eugene Burnouf and Norwegian Christian Lassain found the correct equivalents for almost all cuneiform signs of the 1st group. In 1835, the second multilingual inscription on a rock in Behistuna was found and in 1855 Edwin Norris managed to decipher the 2nd type of writing, consisting of hundreds of

syllable characters. The inscription was in Elam language (nomadic tribes called Amorites or Amorites in the Bible).

With the 3rd type it turned out to be even more difficult. It was a completely forgotten language. One sign there could indicate a syllable and a whole word. Consonants acted only as a part of a syllable, whereas vowels could appear as separate signs. For example, the sound "p" could be transmitted by six different signs, depending on the context. On January 17, 1869, linguist Jules Oppert stated that the language of the 3rd group is .... Sumerian ... So there should be a Sumerian people ... But there was also a theory that it was only artificial - "sacred language "the priests of Babylon. In 1871, Archibald Sis pulicked the first Sumerian text, the royal inscription of Schulgi. But only in 1889, the definition of the Sumerian is accepted everywhere.

SUMMARY: What we now call the Sumerian language is actually an artificial construction, built on analogies with the inscriptions of peoples who have adopted the Sumerian cuneiform - Elam, Akkadian and Old Persian texts. Now remember how the ancient Greeks distorted foreign names and evaluate the possible authenticity of the sound of the “restored Sumerian”. Strange, but the Sumerian language has no ancestors or descendants. Sometimes Sumerian is called the "Latin of ancient Babylon" - but one must be aware that Sumerian did not become the ancestor of a powerful language group, only the roots of a few dozen words remained.

The appearance of the Sumerians

I must say that southern Mesopotamia is not the best place in the world. The complete absence of forests and minerals. The swampiness, frequent floods accompanied by changes in the bed of the Euphrates due to low banks and, as a result, the complete absence of roads. The only thing there was in abundance is reed, clay and water. However, in

combination with the fertile soil fertilized by floods, it was enough for the very first city-states of ancient Sumer to bloom there at the very end of the 3rd millennium BC.

We do not know where the Sumerians came from, but when they appeared in Mesopotamia, people already lived there. The tribes inhabiting in the deepest antiquity of Mesopotamia, lived on islands, towering among the marshes. They built their settlements on artificial earth mounds. Drying the surrounding swamps, they created the most ancient system of artificial irrigation. According to the finds in Kish, they used microlithic tools.

The earliest settlement discovered in Southern Mesopotamia was located near El Obeid (near Ur), on a river island that towered above the marshy plain. The population living here was engaged in hunting and fishing, but it was already moving towards more progressive types of farming: cattle breeding and farming.

The culture of El Obeid existed for a very long time. Its roots go back to the ancient local cultures of Upper Mesopotamia. However, the first elements of the Sumerian culture are already appearing.

From the skulls from the burials, it was determined that the Sumerians were not a one-racial ethnos: there are also brachycephals ("round-headed") and dolichocephaly ("long-headed"). However, this could be the result of mixing with the local population. So we cannot even attribute them to a certain ethnic group with complete confidence. At present, with some certainty, it can only be said that the Semites of Akkad and the Sumerians of Southern Mesopotamia differed sharply from each other, both in their appearance and in their language.

In the oldest communities of southern Mesopotamia in the third millennium BC almost all the products produced here were consumed

locally and subsistence farming reigned. Clay and reed were widely used. In ancient times, clay was molded from clay - first by hand, and later on a special pottery wheel. Finally, clay was used to make a large amount of the most important building material - brick, which was prepared with admixture of reeds and straw. This brick was sometimes dried in the sun, and sometimes burned in a special furnace. By the beginning of the third millennium BC, are the oldest buildings, built of peculiar large bricks, one side of which forms a flat surface, and the other - convex. A major revolution in technology produced the discovery of metals. One of the first metals known to the peoples of the southern part of Mesopotamia was copper, the name of which is found in both the Sumerian and Akkadian languages. Somewhat later, bronze appeared, which was made of copper-lead alloy, and later - with tin. Recent archaeological discoveries indicate that even the middle of the third millennium BC. e. in Mesopotamia, iron was known, obviously meteoric.

The next period of the Sumerii archaic is called the Uruk period at the site of the most important excavations. This era is characterized by a new type of ceramics. Clay vessels, equipped with high handles and a long spout, probably reproduce the ancient metal prototype. The vessels are made on a potter's wheel; however, in their ornamentation they are much more modest than the painted ceramics of the time of El Obeid. However, economic life and culture receive their further development in this era. There is a need for the preparation of documents. In this regard, there is still a primitive painting (pictographic) writing, traces of which are preserved on the cylindrical seals of the time. The inscriptions have a total of up to 1,500 picture marks, from which the ancient Umerite script gradually grew.

After the Sumerians left a huge amount of clay cuneiform tablets. Perhaps it was the first bureaucracy in the world. The earliest inscriptions date back to 2900 BC and contain business records. Researchers complain that the Sumerians left behind a huge number of

"economic" records and "lists of gods" but did not bother to write down the "philosophical basis" of their belief system. Therefore, our knowledge is only an interpretation of cuneiform sources, most of which were translated and rewritten by the priests of later cultures, for example, the Epic of Gilgamesh or the poem Enuma Elish dating from the beginning of the 2nd millennium BC. So, perhaps, we read a kind of digest, similar to the adaptive version of the Bible for modern children. Especially considering that most texts are compiled from several separate sources (due to poor preservation).

Property stratification that occurred within rural communities led to the gradual disintegration of the communal system. The growth of productive forces, the development of trade and slavery, and finally, predatory wars contributed to the isolation of a small group of slave-owning aristocracy from the whole mass of community members. Aristocrats who owned slaves and partly land were called "big people" (lugal), opposed by "little people", that is, free poor members of rural communities.

The earliest evidence of the existence of slave states in Mesopotamia dates back to the beginning of the third millennium BC. e. Judging by the documents of this era, these were very small states, or rather, primary state formations, headed by kings. In the principalities that had lost their independence, the highest representatives of the slave-owning aristocracy, who bore the ancient semi-Hebrew title "tsatesi" (epsi), ruled. The economic foundation of these ancient slave states was the land fund of the country centralized in the hands of the state. The communal lands cultivated by free peasants were considered state property, and their population was obliged to bear all kinds of duties in favor of the latter.

The disunity of city-states created a problem with the exact dating of events in ancient Sumer. The fact is that each city-state had its own

chronicles. And the lists of kings that have come down to us are mostly written not earlier than the Akkadian period and are a mixture of scraps of various "temple lists" that led to confusion and errors. But in general, everything looks like this:

2900 - 2316 BC - the heyday of the Sumerian city-states

2316 - 2200 BC - the union of the Sumerians under the rule of the Akkadian dynasty (the Semitic tribes of the northern part of the Southern Mesopotamia who adopted the Sumerian culture)

2200 - 2112 BC - Interregnum. The period of fragmentation and invasions of nomads -kuts

2112 - 2003 BC - Sumer Renaissance, the heyday of culture

2003 BC - the fall of Sumer and Akkad under the onslaught of the Amorites (Elamites). Anarchy

1792 - The rise of Babylon under Hammurabi (the Old Testament of Babylon)

After its fall, the Sumerians left what had picked up many other nations that came to this land - Religion.

Religion of the Ancient Sumer

Let's touch the Sumerians Religion. It seems that in Sumer, the origins of religion were purely materialistic, and not "ethical," roots. The cult of the Gods was aimed not at "purification and holiness" but was intended to ensure a good harvest, military successes, etc ... The most ancient of the Sumerian Gods mentioned in the most ancient tablets with "lists of gods" .e.), personified the forces of nature - sky, sea, sun, moon,

wind, etc., then gods appeared - patrons of cities, farmers, shepherds, etc. The Sumerians argued that everything in the world belongs to the gods — temples were not the seat of the gods, who were obliged to care for people, but the barn of the gods, the bread basket.

The main deities of the Sumerian Pantheon were the Academy of Sciences (the sky - the male element) and KI (the earth - the female principle). Both of these beginnings sprang from a pristine ocean that spawned a mountain, from tightly bound heaven and earth.

On the mountain of heaven and earth, An conceived [the gods] the Anunnaki. From this union was born the god of air, Enlil, who divided heaven and earth.

There is a hypothesis that at the beginning of maintaining order in the world were the functions of Enki, the god of wisdom and the sea. But then, as the city-state of Nippur, the Enlil god, was elevated, it was he who took the leading place among the gods.

Unfortunately, not a single Sumerian myth about the creation of the world has reached us. The course of events presented in the Akkadian myth "Enuma Elish", according to the researchers, does not correspond to the concept of Sumerians, despite the fact that most of the gods and scenes in it are borrowed from the Sumerian beliefs.

At first, the gods lived hard, everything had to be done by them, there was no one to serve them. Then they created people to serve themselves.

It would seem that An, like other creator gods, should have had a leading role in Sumerian mythology. And, indeed, he was revered, the truth is most likely symbolically. His temple in Ur was called E.ANNA - "House of AN". The first kingdom was called "the kingdom of Anu." However, according to the ideas of Sumerians, An practically does not

interfere in the affairs of people and therefore the main role in the "everyday life" was transferred to other gods, led by Enlil. However, Enlil was not omnipotent, because the supreme power belonged to the council of the fifty main gods, among whom the seven main gods, “those who decide the fate”, were particularly distinguished.

It is believed that the structure of the council of gods repeated the "earthly hierarchy" - where the rulers, Ensi, ruled together with the "Council of Elders", in which a group of the most worthy was distinguished ...

One of the foundations of Sumerian mythology, the exact meaning of which is not established, is the "ME" that played a huge role in the religious and ethical system of Sumer. In one of the myths, more than one hundred “IUs” are named, of which less than half were able to read and decipher. Here such concepts as justice, kindness, peace, victory, lies, fear, crafts, etc. , everything is somehow connected with public life. Some researchers believe that "me" is the prototype of all life, radiated by gods and temples, "Divine rules."

Generally in Sumer, the gods were like people. In their relationship there are matchmaking and war, rape and love, deception and anger. There is even a myth about a man who possessed the goddess Inanna in a dream. It is remarkable, but the whole myth is imbued with sympathy for man.

Interestingly, the Sumerian paradise is not intended for people - it is the abode of the gods, where sadness, old age, illness and death are unknown, and the only problem that concerns the gods is the problem of fresh water. By the way, in ancient Egypt, the concept of paradise was not at all. Sumerian hell - Chur - a gloomy dark underground world, where on the way where there were three attendants - "man of the door", "man of the underground river", "carrier". Reminds of the ancient Greek

Hades and Sheol of the ancient Jews. This empty space separating the earth from the pristine ocean is filled with the shadows of the dead, wandering without hope of return and demons.

In general, the views of the Sumerians, are reflected in many later religions. (more >>>) but now we are much more interested in their contribution to the technical side of the development of modern civilization.

The story begins in Sumer

One of the greatest experts on Schumer, Professor Samuel Noah Kramer, in his book "The Story Begins in Sumer" listed 39 subjects in which the Sumerians were pioneers. In addition to the first writing system, which we have already mentioned, he included in this list the wheel, the first schools, the first bicameral parliament, the first historians, the first "almanac of the tiller"; Cosmogony and cosmology first appeared in Sumer, the first collection of proverbs and aphorisms appeared, and literary debates were conducted for the first time; the image of "Noah" was first created; the first book catalog appeared here, the first money circulated (silver shekels in the form of "ingots by weight"), taxes were first introduced, the first laws were passed and social reforms were implemented, medicine appeared, and for the first time attempts were made to achieve peace and harmony in society.

In the field of medicine, the Sumerians from the very beginning had very high standards. The library of Ashurbanipal, which was found by Layard in Nineveh, had a clear order, it had a large medical department in which there were thousands of clay tablets. All medical terms were based on words borrowed from the Sumerian language. Medical procedures were described in special reference books, which contained information on hygienic rules, operations, such as cataract removal, the use of alcohol for disinfection during surgical operations.

Sumerian medicine differed in its scientific approach to the diagnosis and prescription of a course of treatment, both therapeutic and surgical.

The Sumerians were excellent travelers and explorers — they were also credited with inventing the world's first ships. One Akkadian dictionary of Sumerian words contained at least 105 designations of various types of vessels — in terms of their size, purpose, and type of cargo. One inscription, excavated in Lagash, talks about the possibilities of repairing ships and lists the types of materials that the local ruler, Gudea, brought his god Ninurta for the construction of the temple around 2200 BC. The breadth of the range of these products is striking - from gold, silver, copper - to diorite, carnelian and cedar. In some cases, these materials were transported over thousands of miles.

The first brick kiln was also built in Sumer. The use of such a large furnace made it possible to burn products made of clay, which gave them particular strength due to internal stress, without poisoning the air with a drink and ash. The same technology was used for smelting metals from ore, for example copper - for this, the ore was heated to temperatures above 1500 degrees Fahrenheit in a closed furnace with a low oxygen supply. This process, called smelting, became necessary already in the early stages, as soon as the supply of natural native copper was exhausted. Researchers of ancient metallurgy were extremely surprised at how quickly the Sumerians learned the methods of ore dressing, smelting and casting. These advanced technologies were mastered by them only a few centuries after the emergence of the Sumerian civilization.

Even more striking was the fact that the Sumerians mastered the methods of producing alloys - the process by which various metals are chemically combined when heated in a furnace. The Sumerians learned how to make bronze, a hard but well-processed metal that changed the whole course of human history. The ability to alloy copper with tin was

the greatest achievement for three reasons. First, it was necessary to select a very accurate ratio of copper and tin (analysis of Sumerian bronze showed the optimal ratio - 85% copper to 15% tin). Secondly, in Mesopotamia there was no tin at all. (Unlike, for example, from Tiahuanaco) Thirdly, tin is not found in nature in its natural form at all. To extract it, from ore - tin stone - a rather complicated process is needed. This is not a case that can be opened by chance. The Sumerians had about thirty words to denote different types of copper of different quality, but to use tin, they used the word AN.NA, which means literally "Heavenly Stone" - which many view as evidence that Sumerian technology was a gift from the gods.

Thousands of clay tablets containing hundreds of astronomical terms were found. Some of these tablets contained mathematical formulas and astronomical tables by which the Sumerians could predict a solar eclipse, various phases of the moon, and trajectories of planets. A study of ancient astronomy revealed the remarkable accuracy of these tables (known as ephemeris). No one knows how they were calculated, but we can ask ourselves: why was this needed?

"The Sumerians measured the rising and setting of visible planets and stars relative to the terrestrial horizon, using the same heliocentric system that is used now. We adopted from them also the division of the celestial sphere into three segments - northern, central and southern (respectively, from ancient Sumerians -" Enlil's path "," Anu's path "and" Ea's path "). In essence, all modern concepts of spherical astronomy, including a full 360-degree spherical circle, zenith, horizon, axes of the celestial sphere, poles, ecliptic, equinox, etc., all of a sudden has arisen Sumer.

All the knowledge of the Sumerians regarding the movement of the Sun and the Earth was combined in their first created in the world calendar created in the city of Nippur - the solar-lunar calendar,

beginning in 3760 BC. The Sumerians counted 12 lunar months, which were approximately 354 days, and then added an additional 11 days to get a full solar year. This procedure, called intercalation, was performed annually, until, after 19 years, the solar and lunar calendar were not combined. The Sumerian calendar was made very precisely so that the key days (for example, the New Year always falls on the day of the vernal equinox). Surprisingly, such a developed astronomical science was not at all necessary for this newly born society.

In general, the Sumerians' mathematics had "geometric" roots and was very unusual. Personally, I don’t understand how such a number system could have originated in primitive peoples. But better judge it yourself .. (Details).

Mathematics Sumerians.

The Sumerians used the sixties notation. For the image of numbers, only two characters were used: "wedge" was 1; 60; 3600 and onwards from 60; "hook" - 10; 60 x 10; 3600 x 10, etc. The digital record was based on the positional principle, but if you, on the basis of the number base, think that the numbers in Sumer were displayed as 60 degrees, then you are mistaken.

The basis in the Sumerian system is not taken 10, but 60, but then this basis is strangely replaced by the number 10, then 6, and then again by 10, etc. And thus, positional numbers line up in the following row:

1, 10, 60, 600, 3600, 36 000, 216 000, 2 160 000, 12 960 000.

This cumbersome six-decimal system allowed Sumerians to calculate fractions and multiply numbers to millions, extract roots and rise to a power. In many respects, this system even surpasses the decimal system we are currently using. First, the number 60 has ten prime dividers, while 100 has only 7. Secondly, it is the only system that is

ideally suited for geometric calculations, and this explains the fact that it continues to be used nowadays from here, for example, dividing a circle into 360 degrees.

We seldom realize that we owe not only our geometry, but also the modern way of calculating time, to the Sumerian number system with a sixfold decimal basis. Dividing the hour by 60 seconds was not at all arbitrary - it is based on a six-decimal system. The echoes of the Sumerian numeral system are preserved in the division of days into 24 hours, years into 12 months, feet into 12 inches, and in the existence of a dozen as measures of quantity. They are also found in the modern counting system, in which numbers from 1 to 12 stand out separately, followed by numbers like 10 + 3, 10 + 4, etc.

Now we should not be surprised that the zodiac was also another invention of the Sumerians, an invention that was later adopted by other civilizations. But the Sumerians did not use the signs of the zodiac, tying them to each month, as we do now in horoscopes. They used them in a purely astronomical sense - in the sense of the deviation of the earth's axis, the movement of which divides the full cycle of precession into 25,920 years into 12 periods of 2,160 years. With a twelve month motion of the Earth in orbit around the Sun, the picture of the starry sky, forming a large sphere of 360 degrees, changes. The concept of the zodiac arose by dividing this circle into 12 equal segments (orbs of the zodiac) of 30 degrees each. Then the stars in each group united into constellations, and each of them received its name corresponding to their modern names. Thus, there is no doubt that the concept of the zodiac was first used in Sumer. The inscriptions of zodiac signs (representing imaginary pictures of the starry sky), as well as their arbitrary division into 12 spheres, prove that the corresponding zodiac signs used in other, later cultures could not appear as a result of independent development.

Studies of Sumerian mathematics, to the great surprise of scientists,

have shown that their numerical system is closely related to the precessional cycle. The unusual moving principle of the Sumerian sixties decimal system focuses on the number 12,960,000, which is exactly equal to 500 large precessional cycles occurring in 25,920 years. The absence of any other, except astronomical, possible applications for the products of the numbers 25 920 and 2160 can only mean one thing - this system is designed specifically for astronomical purposes.

It seems that scientists shy away from answering the uncomfortable question, which is this: how could the Sumerians, whose civilization lasted only 2,000 years, be able to notice and fix a cycle of celestial movements that lasted 25,920 years? And why does the beginning of their civilization relate to the middle of the period between the changes of the zodiac? Does this not indicate that they inherited astronomy from the gods?

Sumerians and Aliens

It is interesting that these are inconsistencies and there are many weighty evidences, in the texts of ancient Sumerians, there is evidence that this people had contact with aliens who flew to Earth in the second half of the 4th millennium BC from the planet Niburu. Judging by the descriptions, this planet has a strongly elongated orbit, and once in 3,600 years passes within the solar system. In the near future, it will be clear whether this mysterious planet actually exists, as it is supposed to appear by calculations.

Archaeologists and linguists in the second half of the twentieth century made discoveries that allow to reconsider the history of the Earth and ancient civilizations. After studying several thousand texts and astronomical observations of the ancient Sumerian state, scientists managed to get sensational information about the intervention of an extraterrestrial civilization in the development of mankind and the

impact on the evolution and culture of primitive peoples.

According to ancient Sumerian texts, the envoys of another civilization arrived from a planet that rotates in its star system in a very elongated orbit, and passes close to the solar system once every 3,600 years. The culture and scientific knowledge of aliens have influenced humanity for several hundred thousand years. And it is thanks to them that humanity owes its appearance on Earth. Much credit goes to Zechariah Sitchin, a specialist in the study of ancient texts of Sumerian civilization, Babylon and the Civilization of ancient Egypt, who for 30 years studied and summarized all this sensational information. The Sumerian and Akkadian texts describe how the gods flew from heaven to their chariots of fire, and could fly to any point on earth in a short time, and could fly to the stars. Sometimes they took with them the chosen ones among the people and showed them our Earth from above from space, and sometimes even took them to their home planet. There is a description of how to the Sumerian ruler Gudei, the god appeared in a golden helmet on the "black bird" and gave the order to begin the construction of a structure for it. After the construction was completed, the other gods guarded the building so that mere mortals did not fall under the stream of fire during the take-off and landing of this bird.

"Black birds" from the Sumerians called - MU. The ruler of the Sumerian city Palace, the following entry was made: "MU, they flew up into the sky like lightning, and like a huge bonfire went off into the sky." The images on the Sumerian and Hittite tablets show how objects similar to modern space rockets stand on launch platforms, as well as are depicted in flight against the background of stars. These drawings were even on the seals of the rulers of Crete. During the excavations of ancient Canaan, near Jerusalem, they found a tablet depicting a large rocket, next to which symbols of the moon and some constellations are depicted.

In one particular temple of ancient Egypt, they worshiped the object, in the form of a pyramid, which was called "ben ben". According to the tributes on it came the gods - the Anunnaki, who were the gods of the lower caste. And the Anunnaki led the Nephilim. They gave them orders on Earth, how and where it was necessary to build platforms for their spaceships. The ships of the Nephilim the ancient peoples of Babylon and Akkad called NARU, which means “chariots emitting lightning”. According to Sumerian texts, the ruler of the city of Uruk, Gilgamesh, was only a third man, and two-thirds god. One day, Gilgamesh went on a journey to the Nefilim planet of the fire chariot, but when the ship rose high into the sky, and he saw from space how the big sea turned into a small puddle, he was seized with fear, and he began to implore the Anunnaki to return him back to earth, which was done.

Also during the excavations, tablets were found where space rockets were drawn in the mines. At the top of the rocket is a sphere, which is docked to the cone. The rocket is shown in section, where it is clearly visible that it has a double case (external and internal). Between the buildings there are annular bulkheads. There are access hatches between the compartments of the ship. Figures in one of the compartments in the head section, are holding levers. There is still plenty of evidence that the gods who settled in Sumeria have spaceships. The images on the clay tablets of the Sumerians and the explanatory icons well describe the ships of the gods. Judging by the astronomical tablets of Sumerians, it can be assumed that 4400 years BC in the solar system there were 11 planets. Another planet, Nibiru, the birthplace of Nephilim and Anunnaki is also depicted next to it.

The cosmic gods transferred to the ancient Sumer incredible knowledge about space, about the Earth, about the Solar System, as well as about the most important planet - Nibiru - their homeland. Deciphered letters say that the gods ruled over 120 balls. One ball equals one turn of Nibiru around its star. Thus, aliens appeared on our planet 432 thousand

years ago. Arriving on Earth about 100 thousand years ago, aliens began to conduct a genetic experiment with primitive people. And a new species was obtained, distinguished by its ability for intelligent activity, which was later controlled and directed towards evolutionary development. And somewhere around 4,000 years old, our civilization began to develop rapidly. The newcomers chose rulers from among the most developed and intelligent people, who in turn deified them.

The astronomical term OAK for the Sumerians corresponds to a circle of 360 degrees. Professor of the University of Pennsylvania, H. Hilprecht, discovered that Sumer was aware of the great cosmic cycle with a period of 25,920 solar years. In ancient texts, the Sumerians describe how an asteroid belt appeared between Mars and Jupiter. There was a planet that the Sumerians called Tiomat, whose dimensions were larger than Mars. But 174 thousand great cycles ago, the planet Nibiru crossed the orbit of the planet Tiomat and then the Nephilim destroyed it to avoid a collision.

Are the observations of a UFO in our time related to a multitude of eyewitnesses on our planet with aliens from the planet Nibiru, which, according to the texts of the ancient Sumerians, should already appear near our solar system? Do not their ships observe Earthlings in space in the atmosphere of the earth and underwater? Maybe they are very surprised by the development of our civilization during its absence. And soon unidentified flying objects will cease to be unidentified.

The most round archaeological mystery in the world

Perhaps this is the most circular archaeological mystery in the world, because it is represented by almost perfect stone balls discovered in Costa Rica in the 1930s. Why did the ancients make these balls? This question remains unanswered, on this score there are only hypotheses of

scientists, and sometimes quite unusual.

Today in Costa Rica more than 300 stone balls are found, the weight of the largest reaches 16 tons.

In Costa Rica, stone balls were discovered in the 30s of the 20th century; they were found by workers who cut down impenetrable jungles under banana plantations. They were amazed at the perfectly round balls lying on the surface of the earth, the most impressive of which were more than 2 meters in diameter.

Some of the workers remembered the local belief that the ancient Indians hid their gold in such stones, they began to break stone balls into pieces with sledgehammers and even blow up dynamite. Of course, there was no gold inside, but, most likely, the unique finds would have been destroyed by insane “gold miners”, but, fortunately, the company’s management intervened in time and stopped this barbarism.

Local geologists reacted rather calmly to such exotic finds, they explained the formation of balls by volcanic activity, but archaeologists had a different opinion, because some of the balls had obvious signs of processing and grinding. The fact that the balls were made by people, testified and their location. In a number of cases, they formed various geometric shapes — triangles, parallelograms, tortuous or straight lines. Some researchers even found an intricate arrangement of balls ... a map of the starry sky.

BALLS THAT PLAYED THE GODS

Erich von Daniken, a well-known writer and supporter of paleovizita aliens from space, called these stone balls "balls that the gods played." Like archaeologists, he does not doubt their artificial origin.

Scientists, of course, tried to find some information about who made these balls and for what purpose. However, it became clear that the balls had stopped doing before the invasion of the Spaniards into South America, and there is no written information about them.

In his report on the study of the balls of Costa Rica, archaeologist Doris Z. Stone wrote: "We must include the perfect spheres of Costa Rica to incomprehensible megalithic riddles." Alas, the scientist is right, at the moment any indisputable data shedding light on their authors and purpose are completely absent.

“We determine the age of the balls according to the style of production and the radiocarbon analysis of the objects that are found with the balls,” says John Hoopes, associate professor of anthropology at the University Of Kansas (USA). - One of the problems of this technique is that it reports the date of the last use of the balls, but not the date of their creation. These objects could be used for centuries and are still in the same places for thousands of years. Therefore, it is very difficult to determine the exact date of their creation. ”

Near the balls, archaeologists discovered shards of pottery, tools, some of the stone "globes" were installed on man-made embankments. Now using the dating of objects found near the balls, it was determined that they were made in the period from 1500 to 200 BC. However, such dating cannot be considered accurate and final, the balls could actually move at a later time, as they do now, therefore their age may well be much more ancient. There are hypotheses that the age of the balls may amount to hundreds of thousands and even millions of years.

If such an estimate of age in some cases is the fruit of fantastic conclusions, then the hypothesis of George Ericson and several other researchers is quite reasonable. Erickson estimates the age of the balls about 12 thousand years. A similar assumption is based on the fact that in

the coastal area, stone balls were found under water. If they were in this place originally, then the balls were under water at least 10 thousand years ago, when the sea level rose.

According to a number of scientists, the most plausible are the assumptions that stone balls were symbols of social status or marked the boundaries of land. Perhaps their manufacture was an important ritual and was associated with the veneration of such luminaries as the sun and the moon.

As for the more fantastic hypotheses, there is no shortage of them. For example, according to one of them, the stone spheres played the role of peculiar markings of the ancient alien space center. But according to the authors of the book "Atlantis in America: navigators of the ancient world" (1998) Aivar Zapp and George Erikson, the sphere was the navigation tools of a highly developed ancient race of navigators, which gave rise to the legend of Atlantis. Under the balloons, we even looked for capsules with messages from our alien brothers in mind, who in ancient times visited our planet.

Much about the purpose of the balls could tell their true location, but now in its original place there are only a few balls. However, if the balls are actually very ancient, then they could have been moved by seven hundred or even a thousand years ago. Therefore, to draw any conclusions on the basis of the location of the balls is very problematic. Most likely, the purpose of the stone spheres will remain a mystery.

FIRE AND SKILL

If until recently only lovers of mysteries and mysteries of the past knew about these artifacts, then after the film “Indiana Jones: In Search of the Lost Ark”, Costa Rica’s stone balls found out literally the whole world, because in this picture one of these “balls” was almost crushed

Indiana Jones.

To date, more than 300 stone balls have been found in Costa Rica, with the largest weight reaching 16 tons. Many stone balls are made of granodiorite. It is believed that balls of this kind are not formed naturally. There are also several specimens of shell rock - a variety of limestone, consisting mainly of shells and their fragments.

How did the stone spheres be made? Archaeologists believe that the ancients picked up initially less round boulders, then subjected them to strong heating and cooling, which led to the fact that the upper layers of the stone fell away like a bulbous husk. When this process led to a perfectly acceptable spherical workpiece, it was already processed with stone tools and polished. Proof of this processing scheme is the fact that many balls still keep traces of strong temperature drops.

The ancient masters managed to achieve a very high degree of accuracy. For example, balls with a diameter of about 1 meter had an error detected when measuring several diameters, from 2.5 to 5 cm. Balls of larger diameter were made even more accurately, sometimes measurements for several sections give almost the same values.

Iphigenia archaeologist Quintanillus managed to find granodiorite deposits in the Talamanca mountain range, which is about 50 miles from the cluster of balls. Boulders, which can be called unfinished specimens of stone spheres, were found at the rock outcrop site. It should be noted that the ancient masters had to tinker with the delivery of these blanks over rough marshland.

BALLS DISCUSSED "BY HAND"

Almost immediately after the discovery of the balls they began to move from place to place. By rail, by truck, the balls were delivered

literally across the country. Some were in the National Museum, others in parks, gardens, in front of various official buildings of the capital of the country - San Jose, and others even decorated the lawns in front of the houses of various influential people.

Two stone balls were taken to the United States: one can be seen in the Museum of the National Geographic Society, and the other is exhibited in the courtyard of the Museum of Archeology and Ethnography of Peabody, Harvard University. It can be said that the balls went hand in hand, only a few of them remained in their former places.

Ghost town at the bottom of the sea

In 1362, the city of Rungholt, standing on the shores of the northern sea, flooded the waves of the sea. There are strange stories about this sunken city and its inhabitants. Where Rungholt was located is not known for sure. Archaeologists and enthusiasts local historians have long sought remnants of the legendary settlement near the island of Pelvorm.

In 1882, the German poet Detlev von Lilienkron, who was known at that time, became infected with this passion for a year and a half as headman of a rural district on Pellworm Island. Poet von Lilienkron summarized all the fragmentary stories about the sunken Rungholt and its restless ghosts, put it in poetic lines and embellished it with its imagination. It was this vivid poem about the city captured by the sea that finally formed the legend of the city gone to the bottom.

It is known that the mysterious Rungholt really existed. In the seventies of the 20th century, an old document was found in the State Archives in Hamburg, the content of which confirms the existence of the Rungecholt church parish. But in the administrative district of

Edomshard, there was never a city with such a name. Historians believe that Rungholt was founded around 1200 on the banks of the channel, to the south-east of Pelworth. The population, about a thousand people, was mainly engaged in agriculture, in addition, there was a small harbor in Rungholt. It is unlikely that residents were swimming in luxury, and no special wealth is out of the question.

Perhaps, on ships in Rungholt delivered salt, which in the Middle Ages was a running and expensive product.

No signs of luxurious burials or other traces of the presence of well-off citizens were found in the alleged area of Rungholt. There was no salt deposits there, only peatlands were around. Nevertheless, Rungholt, precisely because of the harbor, was perhaps of no small importance for all the inhabitants of Edomshardo County.

Rungholt residents did not expect trouble. For many years they built houses on bottom sediments in the place where the deep channel passed through the ice age. The base of the dried up bed settled down little by little and finally the waves of the North Sea poured into it. Despite the high dams, built with extraordinary diligence and hard work, people could not defend their habitable place from the raging elements. On January 16, 1362, the land on which they lived irreversibly disappeared under water.

Flood - God Kara

For what overtook the death of civilians? About this, people on the coast have different explanations. Connoisseurs of these places are whispering meaningfully among themselves: "All this is not without reason - God's punishment for terrible sins!"

In 1666, the author of the Northern Frontier Chronicle, Anton

Heimrayh, described the flood in the North Frisia in embellished form. He got a true legend, with interesting details and additions, invented for almost three hundred years.

"Amidst all these flooded places," begins the story of Anton Heimreich, "Rungholt is especially remarkable ..." According to the author of the chronicle, the well-being of the district depended on this city, and the old-timers told a lot of miraculous things about it. Contemporaries of Haymreich knew many stories about the "underwater city".

“Once a priest was called to commune a sick person,” reports Heimrayh. But when this pious man came in to the suffering man, he saw on the bed a healthy man, drunk as a pig - these blasphemers wanted to make fun of a virtuous Christian. In indignation, he hurried out, but he was not released. "Godless revelers" stopped him by force, took away the tin with prosphora for communion and poured beer there.

After such a reproach, the churchman began to cry out to the Lord so that God would punish sinners. Very little time passed, and a terrible wind blew from the sea, high waves rolled over the land. Sea depths swallowed all. Element did not spare anyone except the priest and two or, perhaps, four virgins.

In the second half of the seventeenth century, when Heimraich wrote his chronicle, the North Sea covered the coast near the former Edomsharda district with a thick layer of sediment. Even at that time very few remnants of the former settlements were found in the tidal area. In some places, such a thick layer of sand and silt has accumulated that the land again formed, where the waves did not reach. This time, the land plots went to people for a short time. After some time, the sea began to flood this land. The area of the island of Sudfalle, for example, has decreased three times over 130 years and is now 56 hectares. In a strong storm the whole island is completely under water.

GIFT FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA

It was in 1921, on the Day of the Holy Trinity, on a sunny spring day. The peasant Andreas Bush from the island of Northstrand rode in a wagon and drove through the flooded area. He already thought that he would have to turn back, because the horses were stuck on the belly in liquid sludge. The farmer with incredible efforts pulled the cart with the horses to a firm place.

What he saw later changed his whole future life. Directly in front of him were sticking out of the water for 70 centimeters pile of drainage gateway regulator. A little further away, the lower part of the shipyard could be discerned, and arable lands were guessed. The sea subsided and exposed the remains of a medieval settlement near Südfall island. Andreas Bush immediately thought it was the legendary Rungholt.

Prior to this discovery, no one knew exactly where the place was, the fate of which still concerns the minds of the inhabitants of the Frisian Islands. On some of the old maps, Rungholt lay north of Südfall, and on others it is marked "rather" to the south of this island.

For years, Andreas Bush has been engaged in an in-depth search for Rhungholt's tracks and indulged in this activity with genuine enthusiasm. He patiently waited for low tide, examined, photographed, and made detailed maps of the area. For scientific merit - archaeological research at the site of the alleged Rungholt - self-taught Bush was awarded the University of Christian Albrecht in Kiel.

NEW CONTRIBUTION

The sad story of the “underwater city” would have ended there, if not the ethnologist Hans-Peter Durr. It all started with the fact that in the

summer of 1992 Dürr, with his wife and children, spent the summer on the island of Northstrand. In the summer house he found a map drawn up in 1652 by cartographer Johannes Meyer from Husum (a city in the west of Schleswig-Holstein). The map was called "Outlines of Rungholt and its parishes. Year 1240. Durr recalled the famous poem of Lilienkron and decided to study the issue and independently examine the terrain, in particular, the section where Rungholt the cartographer of the mid-17th century painted.

In June 1994, a professor with a group of students at the University of Bremen arrived in Husum and went in search of historical artifacts. Where Rungholt was lying on Meyer's map, Professor Dürr began excavations, hampered by the fact that the area was covered with water and a thick layer of muddy slush — there was virtually no land there.

Officials from the Archaeological Administration of Schleswig-Holstein are not enthusiastic about the initiative of the Bremen scientist. Durr's expeditions revived interest in the history of medieval Rungholt, and the ghostly riches of the flooded port city and the occasional discovery of Bush "inspire local treasure hunters to the exploits". However, Professor Durr is not so easy to stop. He wrote a book in which he summarized the results of his eleven-year work and compared them with a large number of meticulously collected historical information. The professor is sure that he not only found the authentic Rungholt, but also found evidence of the existence of a settlement at this place as far back as the Bronze Age. This settlement allegedly maintained trade relations with the cities of the Mediterranean, in particular, with the island of Crete. According to experts, this hypothesis has no basis.

Although Professor Dürr has finally undermined his authority in the eyes of archaeologists and historians, all lovers of local legends and beliefs should be grateful to him for maintaining the glory of the

“underwater city”.

The Pearl of the Lost World

It is well known that the “Dvorichie” is an area between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, where the most ancient centers of civilization originated and where Iraq is now located. But its biennium is in America. It is located in southeastern Mexico, in the state of Chiapas, occupying a mountainous, covered with a salmon plateau between two deep rivers - the Grihalva and Usumacinta. Even before our era, Indian Mayan tribes lived here, creating many small kingdoms that were at war with each other.

Pearl of the Lost World One of the kingdoms was called Bakal. Around the 1st century BC his subjects began to build a city named Lakamha, which meant “High Water”.

The white-stone city gradually grew, not much different from similar cities in the neighboring kingdoms. But in 615, the 12-year-old Kinich-Hanab-Pacal I ascended to the throne of Bakal. At first he ruled under the regency of his mother, and from about 625 he became an absolute monarch.

Pacal achieved prosperity in the state, successfully led the war and became famous as the king-builder. When it was built hundreds of temples, palaces, public buildings, as well as aqueducts and roads ...

He was called Pacal the Great, the sacred ruler, and was revered almost like a god. The ruler died in. 683, having been on the throne for 68 years.

And then in the kingdom of Bakal began a series of unrest and upheaval. In the middle of the 9th century, people, for a mysterious

reason, left the millennial kingdom. Deserted territory began to overgrow with selva ...

TEMPLE OF RECORDINGS

In the XVIII century, the conquistadors of Cortez passed literally next to the dead city, but even they did not notice the stone communities entwined with creeping vegetation. The conquerors were accompanied by missionary monks who, under the pretext of fighting paganism, set fire to written monuments of Mayan history and culture. It seemed a little more, and the very memory of the ancient kingdoms of Mesoamerica would disappear forever.

At the end of the 18th century, the ruins of an abandoned, half-absorbed city were inspected by a Spanish captain, checking information received from a local priest, who, in turn, referred to the Indians.

By analogy with the nearest Indian settlement, a deserted city received the name Palenque. However, the report of the Spanish officer did not cause interest then.

Mexico experienced a turbulent period of wars, coups, and revolutions. Many more decades passed before the first travelers climbed the mysterious plateau, followed by scientists, archeologists, historians, and ethnographers. And yet for a long time the city of Palenque, about the true history of which at that time practically nothing was known, was of interest only to a rather narrow circle of professionals.

But in the summer of 1952, a scientist appeared here who gave mankind a worldwide sensation. It was the Mexican archaeologist Albert Rous Luille. He climbed the upper platform of the 9-step pyramid, where the Temple of Inscriptions stood, so named because its walls and even columns were covered with Mayan hieroglyphic inscriptions.

By that time, the scientific community believed that the Temple of the Inscriptions served only as an ancient sanctuary. Rus was the first who paid attention to the slab in one of the premises of the temple, the slab, on the sides of which were placed stone inserts - a kind of cork. By order of Rus, the workers took out these inserts, after which they managed to lift the plate itself.

Tsarsky Sarkofag

A passage opened, leading somewhere down, inside a giant 28-meter pyramid. Almost to the very top, he was crammed with a mixture of large stones, rubble and earth. During the four field seasons, the expedition of Albert Roose was engaged in clearing the “hole”. It was a stone staircase with 66 steps, so narrow that it involuntarily gave the impression that the tunnel was falling vertically downwards. The staircase itself had a secret: it did not lead in a straight line, but did a zigzag in the form of a letter Z and led out to a camera located at the level of the base of the pyramid.

Here, in some similarities of the tombs, scientists found six skeletons and found that they belong to five young men and one girl, and from noble families. Everything indicated that they were victims of a certain ritual. A triangular plate was visible in the chamber wall. Having taken it out, archaeologists proceeded further.

Later, Rus recalled this: “From the thick darkness, in the light of a hand lamp, a fantastic picture of a fantastic, unearthly world suddenly appeared. It seemed like a magical grotto, carved in the ice. Its walls glittered and shimmered like snow crystals in the rays of the sun. Like the fringe of a huge curtain, graceful festoons of stalactites hung. And the stalagmites on the floor looked like drops of water on a gigantic ghost candle. The tomb was like an abandoned temple. Sculptured

figures from alabaster walked along its walls. Then my gaze fell to the floor. It was almost completely covered by a huge, perfectly preserved stone slab with embossed images. ”

The five-ton plate was lifted with the help of car jacks and logs. Having overcome a number of obstacles, scientists opened the sarcophagus.

There, against the backdrop of bright purple paint and a whole placer of green-blue jade jewelry, the well-preserved human skeleton turned yellow. This was the last refuge of the ruler Pakal! His face was covered with a mosaic jade mask with eyes of mother of pearl shells and pupils of obsidian. This mask, being an exact portrait of the deceased, brought to the researchers the appearance of the Mayan king through 13 centuries!

The whole stone sarcophagus, according to the calculations of archaeologists, weighed more than 20 tons.

It was unthinkable to pull such a colossus up the steep stairs. And this meant that the first tomb was built, and only then a pyramid and a temple were erected over it. By its uniqueness, this burial is comparable only with the tomb of Pharaoh Cheops in the Egyptian Great Pyramid. After the funeral, the stairs were covered with a mixture of stones and earth, which forever blocked the way for lovers of easy money.

And to communicate with the spirit of the deceased, a long stone pipe was arranged, curved in the form of a snake figure, which stretched from the crypt to the temple.

The riddle, however, lurked in the fact that the skeleton belonged to a strong and tall man at the age of 40-50 years, Pacal died at the age of 81.

Nevertheless, the scientific community has recognized that it is Pacal that lies beneath the Temple of the Inscriptions!

ROCKETOPAN OR PATTERNS?

However, the hottest disputes that have not subsided to the present day, caused the image on the lid of the Mayan king sarcophagus. In the center of an extremely rich, full symbolism of the carved composition, a man full of strength is depicted. Leaning back, he settled on some kind of bed, the base of which serves as a creepy monster mask. But the man is as if not disturbed by the presence of evil power; his gaze is directed upwards, to where a serpent about two heads wriggles on the crossbar of a strange cross. From the jaws of these heads, men in masks of the rain god look out.

The archaeologist-discoverer found in this composition an association with the god of maize, who, according to Mayan beliefs, died annually, but always revived.

A completely different point of view was expressed by the Swiss writer and archaeologist Erich von Daniken, according to the script of which the well-known documentary “Memories of the Future” was made.

He came to the conclusion that the figure in the bas-relief “is an exact copy of the astronaut sitting at the control panel of the spacecraft. He keeps one foot on the pedal and looks at the devices in front of him. Exhaust emissions are visible from the tail end of the ship. ”

In the course of time, both the “earthly” and the “cosmic” versions have both hottest supporters and violent opponents. Among the adherents of the “cosmic” version there are not only science fiction writers and ufologists, but also quite a few serious scientists. More recently,

American aircraft designer J. Sanderson laid a reproduction of a controversial pattern in a computer, and he transformed the flat image into three-dimensional. The result was a spacecraft cabin with a control panel and a propulsion system.

In response, historians of a conservative orientation call the details of the “spacecraft” merely typical Mayan patterns. However, the "earth" version has a number of original variations.

Alberto Rus himself, who did not consider Tsar Pakal to be an astronaut, said, referring to the growth and a number of other features of the deceased ruler, that “this character” could have come not from Maya. Soon the hypothesis of the transatlantic voyages of the navigators of the ancient Mediterranean arose, which brought “wild” Indians a high culture, became the ancestors of the royal dynasties and taught the Mayans to build pyramids.

In 1994, in one of the buildings adjoining the Temple of Inscriptions, in the so-called Temple XIII, a second similar burial was discovered, with exactly the same sarcophagus.

The find was called the “tomb of the “red queen ”because the female skeleton inside the sarcophagus was literally filled with cinnabar. It is believed that Pacal's wife, who died before him, is buried here.

Obviously, other discoveries await us, because of the many hundreds of buildings in the ancient city, to date, almost one-tenth of them are truly explored.

China history

The history of China begins with the times of the legendary ruler

Fu Xi, who lived 30-40 centuries before the beginning of our era. Supposedly the gods inspired him to write the sacred book of Ancient China "I Ching", from which flowed the theory that the physical Universe originated and develops thanks to the alternation of yin and yang. Fu-Xi is also considered the mythological founding father and the most revered ancient ruler of China.

If, however, mythological characters are not taken into account, as far as official written historical sources are concerned, they do not mention any rulers of China who preceded the Shang dynasty (1766-1122 BC). It is with the rulers of the Shang dynasty that the authentic, written, confirmed history of China begins.

Brief History of China

The Shang rulers were overthrown by the Zhou dynasty, which first built its capital near modern Xi'an, and later, around 750 BC. e., fled from the barbarians who invaded the country and settled near the current Liaoyang. In the early period of the dynasty, power was concentrated in the hands of the emperor, but later local rulers formed almost independent states. Since 770 BC. e. these rulers waged fierce wars with each other, and the whole period from 476 to 221 years. BC e. got the name "Fighting kingdoms". At the same time, China was attacked by barbarians from the north and northeast. Then it was decided to build huge walls to protect the territory. In the end, the main power was concentrated in the hands of Prince Qin, whose army overthrew the ruler Zhou.

The new emperor Qin Shi-Huang Di became the founder of the Qin dynasty in 221 BC. e. He was one of the most illustrious emperors in the history of China and the first to unify the Chinese empire. After the death of Emperor Qin Shi Huang Di in 210 g. e. there was a power struggle between the provincial governors, and the winner, Liu Bang, founded the

Han dynasty (206 BC - 220 AD). Under the Han dynasty, the territory of China expanded significantly. After the fall of the Han dynasty, 3 kingdoms unfolded in the struggle for power - Wei, Shu, and W. After a short time, 16 provinces entered the war. In 581 BC the founder of the Sui dynasty seized power and made efforts to unify the empire. Work began with the Grand Canal connecting the lower Yangtze River with the Middle Current of the Yellow River.

After the fall of the Sui Dynasty, in the Tang era, the history of China reached its peak. It was during this period that China became the most powerful state in the world and represented the main force in East Asia. The population of Xi'an, the capital of the empire, exceeded 1 million people, culture flourished: classical painting developed, arts such as music, dance and opera, magnificent ceramic products were made, the secret of white translucent porcelain was discovered. Dominated by Confucian ethics and Buddhism, progress was observed in science - mainly in astronomy and geography.

Toward the end of the ninth century. invasions of neighboring nations began in China, moreover, internal uprisings constantly flared up. In 907 the dynasty ceased to exist and was quickly replaced by five others. During this turbulent period of Chinese history, paper banknotes were introduced and a primitive printing press was invented. At the beginning of the XIII century. Chinggiskhan invaded China. By 1223, his troops seized all the lands north of the Yellow River. The Song Dynasty ceased to exist in 1279, when Kubilai took over all of China and became emperor.

The Mongol dynasty Yuan established the capital of the state in Khanbalik, present-day Beijing. For the first time in history, China was ruled by foreigners, and the state became part of a vast empire that stretched to Europe and Persia in the west and encompassed the plains and steppes of Siberia in the north. The presence of foreign warriors on

the lands of China and the capture of usable lands by the Mongols eventually led to the “uprising of the red dressings” in the middle of the XIV century. The Mongol Empire began to crumble after Kublai's death in 1297, and the trade routes again became unsafe. Somewhat later, the Mongols were driven out of China, and the Ming dynasty reigned, first in Nanking, and then in Beijing. At this time, architecture was actively developed, new crops were grown, power was concentrated at the court, large sea expeditions were sent to Java, Sri Lanka and even to the Persian Gulf and Africa.

The Manchus were the second alien people who seized China, but they so quickly adapted to Chinese culture that in a few generations few of the Manchus spoke their native language. The borders of the empire expanded significantly, the first 150 years of the Manchu rule in the country were peace and prosperity. At the beginning of the XIX century European ships began to increasingly appear off the coast, tsarist Russia took possession of Siberia. Due to the “opium wars” (1839–1842), Shanghai and Nanjing were taken over by the British, five ports were opened for trade, and British troops occupied Hong Kong.

In addition, the Taiping uprising (1848–1864) under the leadership of a religious fanatic, who called himself the brother of Jesus Christ, was a threat to the Manchu court. He and his followers seized a large territory of China and established the Heavenly Capital in Nanjing. Attempts by the rebels to take possession of Beijing and the weak resistance of the Manchus prompted the British and French to seek from the emperor new concessions. The result was the Beijing Agreement, under which additional ports were opened for foreign traders, guaranteed extraterritorial rights and other privileges to foreigners in China. The Allied forces and the Manchu army defeated the Taiping, Nanjing was conquered. But soon the war of China against Japan began (1894–1895), as a result of which China lost Korea, Taiwan and the Pescador Islands.

In 1900, the Society of Fair Kulaks, or Boxers, invaded Beijing and attacked the quarter where foreigners lived. The siege lasted 50 days, until the expeditionary forces of seven western states and Japan arrived. "Boxers" had to run. The revolutionary movement in China eventually led to the fall of the Qing dynasty in 1911. At this time, the revolutionaries in Nanjing created their own government. Sun Yatsenbsh was proclaimed the first president on January 1, 1912, but not he, but General Yuan Shikai forced the Manchus to abdicate the throne in 1912 and proclaimed China a constitutional republic.

The capital of the state was declared Beijing. In the same year, Sun Yat-sen formed the Kuomintang party, which Yuan Shikai declared outlawed in 1913. Yuan tried to become emperor, but his attempt failed. After his death in 1916, Japan took advantage of internal unrest in China to seize Shandong Province, and put forward the so-called "twenty-one claim", according to which power in China passed into the hands of the Japanese. China was forced to agree to these demands, and since then this day is considered the day of national mourning.

In 1917, China entered the First World War, primarily driven by the desire to win back the lost provinces, but at the Versailles Peace Conference, China’s claims were rejected. In July 1921, the Chinese Communist Party was formed in Shanghai, one of whose leaders was Mao Zedong. In 1924, the Kuomintang party, having lost the support of Western democracies, was re-formed by Sun Yat-sen under the leadership of the Soviet government. With the support of the Russian Communists, a revolutionary army was formed.

Sun Yat-sen died in 1925, and the national government of Guangzhou Province led Chiang Kai-shek. Nationalist troops marched north, seizing province after province, and in 1927 reached Shanghai. In April 1927, after the massacre of members of the Communist Party, a temporary nationalist government was created in Nanking, which the

Western powers recognized in 1928. Chiang Kai-shek became President of the country. For nearly 10 years, Chiang Kai-shek tried to restore political unity across the country, but he faced strong opposition. In 1931, Japan captured Manchuria, and by 1933, the troops approached the outskirts of Beijing.

By 1935, Mao Zedong declared himself the leader of the Chinese Communist Party. Within half a year, a full-scale invasion of Chinese troops into China began, and by October 1938, the Japanese army controlled all the eastern provinces from Manchuria to Guandong. Puppet governments were created in Beijing and Nanking. The Kuomintang troops retreated to Chongqing, the Communists occupied the province of Shaanxi, leading a guerrilla war in the occupied territories.

In 1945, after the defeat of the Japanese army in the Pacific region, Japanese forces in China capitulated. The army of Chiang Kai-shek, with the help of the US Air Force, captured the remnants of the Japanese troops and thereby gained control over the main strategic points of the territory occupied by the Japanese. In 1949, a civil war broke out in China. Resorting to the same tactic of the partisan war, which they seized during the occupation, by 1948 the communists had seized almost all the northern lands, and in January 1949 they took Beijing. Chiang Kai-shek's troops fled to Taiwan.

October 1, 1949 Mao Zedong proclaimed the formation of the People's Republic of China. The first actions of the new government were aimed at restoring the economy and creating socialist institutions. The Chinese were assisted by the Soviet Union in accordance with the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Pact concluded in February 1950. Soviet specialists arrived in the country, and China received the equipment necessary for economic recovery. In October 1950, China entered the Korean War. At the same time, agrarian reforms were introduced in the

country to ensure a more equitable distribution of land, but they were accompanied by executions of former landowners and wealthy peasants. In addition, measures were taken against political and economic corruption.

In 1953, the first five-year plan was adopted, an attempt to develop the Chinese economy according to the Soviet model, which focused on the development of heavy industry. The land given to the peasants under the land reform was taken back in the process of creating collective farms. In the 60s, the gap between China and the USSR began. All Soviet specialists were recalled, assistance programs stopped. In 1962, the authorities were forced to transform the communes into more efficient small farms. In the same year, clashes on the border with India resulted in a war. Two years later, an atomic bomb exploded in China.

In 1966, the hunveibin movement began, covering the whole of China. When in 1968 the uprising was pacified, Mao was in power again. In 1969, there were serious clashes between the border forces of China and the USSR on the Ussuri River. In 1971, Mao’s successor, Lin Biao, tried to enlist the support of the army and carry out a coup, but was defeated and was killed on the border with Mongolia while trying to escape in the USSR. A year later, US President R. Nixon visited China to conclude a communiqué, in which the US recognized China’s right to Taiwan as an integral part of the country.

In 1976, Prime Minister Zhou Enlai died, and after a short time, the radical circles of the party launched a stormy campaign against his likely successor, Deng Xiaoping, who was removed from all posts in April. In July, China suffered from the strongest earthquake in Tianshan, near Beijing, which killed at least 240,000 people and caused enormous damage to one of the country's major industrial zones. In September, Mao died.

In 1977, Deng Xiaoping was reinstated in all posts and led a faction of moderates trying to move through economic development and reform. China began work on the “four modernizations” program, which was to strengthen industry, agriculture, science and defense. In 1980, there was criticism of the actions of Mao Zedong and his serious mistakes in the last years of his rule. On June 3, 1989, troops were abandoned to disperse student demonstrations. Hundreds of people died, thousands were arrested. Zhao Ziyang was removed from his post as general secretary. In 1994, official control over currency exchange was abolished in China, and the yuan gained a firm exchange rate.

Ziggurats. Tower of Babel

The most ancient post-populated civilization was Between Rivers. Interestingly, the Bible, which contains the richest information about many kingdoms, first tells about Babylon, giving it a large place in both historical and prophetic aspects. As it appears from the Holy Scriptures and the most ancient chronicles, the very first steps in the formation of Mesopotamian statehood were inextricably linked with religion, which was based on an open challenge to the true God, which was most clearly manifested in the construction of the famous Tower of Babel.

Today, no one doubts its existence, which has been proven by historians and archaeologists. But before we turn to history, architecture in the religious meaning of its construction, let us pay attention to the creation of special temples-ziggurats, to which the famous tower belonged. So, the ziggurat was a huge building, consisting of several towers (usually from 4 to 7), located one on one, in proportion to decreasing upwards. Between the top of the lower tower and the base above the lying terrace were terraces with beautiful gardens.

At the top of the whole building stood the sanctuary, to which led a

huge staircase, starting at the bottom and having several side branches. This upper church was dedicated to any deity who was considered the patron saint of this city. The towers themselves were painted in different colors: the lower, as a rule, was black, the second - red, higher - white, even higher - blue, etc. The upper tower was often crowned with a golden dome, which was visible for many kilometers from the city . From a distance, this spectacle was truly fabulous.

However, the ziggurat was something more than just a temple, it was the link between heaven and earth, as well as the place where God himself was supposedly, declaring to people his will through priests. But if during the day the ziggurat was a temple, then at night it was a place of astrological acts, as well as a place of departure for black satanic rites. We will never fully know all the details of the administration of these services, but even the information that clay tablets tell us is horrifying. It was in the upper temples that astrology was created, connecting people with the abyss. During the excavations it was established that the name of its founder - Saaben-ben-Aares, however, the true creator of this pseudoscience was, of course, the prince of darkness.

Such ziggurats were built in Nippur (about 2100 B.C. Khr. King of Ur-Nammu), now located 40 miles west of the Euphrates; in Uruk, 12 miles from the Euphrates, 988 acres; to Eridu, erected almost immediately after the flood and renewed many times throughout history, forming 12 temples, one above the other; Ur - built by the king of Ur-Namm in honor of the god of the moon Nunn, and very well preserved to our time, etc. But the ziggurat built in Babylon, at the dawn of the posthumous history, is described in the Bible. “There was one tongue and one tongue in all the earth.

Moving from the east, people found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. And they said to a friend: we shall make bricks and burn them with fire. And they had bricks instead of stones, and earthen

resin instead of lime. And they said: We will build for ourselves a city and a tower, which is as high as heaven; and let us make a name for ourselves before we scatter over the face of the whole earth ”(Gen. 11: 1-4). The terrible punishment that befell mankind, who decided to go their own way, independent of God and against His will (the flood), was forgotten. People again chose to live and act without God in order to satisfy their vanity and pride. God could not approve of their proud and insane plan, and, by mixing languages, prevented the execution of human plans.

However, not wanting to humble themselves before the Creator, people again soon began to build a ziggurat in the same place where it was stopped by God Himself. Jesus Christ never produces violence against human free will, and therefore He did not interfere with this insane plan of the people, wanting them and their descendants to see what their open and stubborn disobedience to Heavenly Father would bring. With pain, Christ gazed at how people stubbornly constructed a tower, which was to become the center of worship for false gods, in other words, they built a scaffold for themselves.

For the religion that they so defended and implanted had to lead them to degradation and death. But the arrogant builders, who were intoxicated by the prince of darkness, did not think about it, and finally built a magnificent building that amazed people with beauty and scope for 1500 years. The Babylonian ziggurat, rebuilt dozens of times over a specified time, was called Etemenanka, that is, the Temple of the cornerstone of Heaven and Earth, being the center of the temple city of Esagila (House of the Head Raising) colossal in size, surrounded by walls and towers, including many temples and palaces. Esagila was the seat of the chief Babylonian priest, who was at the same time the high priest of the whole world priesthood (this will be discussed below). Descriptions of this tower of the famous Greek historian Herodotus and the personal physician of the Medo-Persian king Artaxerxes II - Ctesias

have reached our time.

The tower described by them was restored at Nabopolassar (625-605 BC.) And Nebuchadnezzar II (605-562 BC.) After a period of decline. Restoring the tower, Nebuchadnezzar said: "I put my hand to finish building the top of Etemenanki so that she could argue with the sky." So, the tower built by them consisted of seven steps - floors. The first floor, 33 meters high, was black and was called the lower temple of Marduk (the supreme god Babylon), in the center of which stood a statue of the god, completely cast from the purest gold and weighed 23,700 kilograms!

In the temple stood, in addition, a golden table 16 meters long and 5 meters wide, a golden bench and a throne. In front of the statue of Marduk, daily sacrifices were made. The second floor in red was 18 meters high; the third, fourth, fifth and sixth - 6 meters in height and were painted in various bright colors. The last seventh floor was called the upper temple of Marduk, it was 15 meters high and was faced with turquoise glazed tiles decorated with golden horns. The upper church was visible many kilometers from the city and in the light of the sun was an extraordinary beauty. In this temple there was a bed, an armchair and a table, supposedly intended for God himself, when he came here to rest. There was also a "sacred" marriage of the king and priestess, all this was accompanied by an orgy, concluded in the "sublime" philosophy. Today, ziggurats lie in ruins, and many are not preserved at all, but the ideas of their builders continue to live today.

So, firstly, the construction of the ziggurat wore, as we have said, the nature of an open challenge to divine authority. Even the name Etemenanka challenges Christ by arrogating to himself His title, for the Scripture says: “... here I suppose in Zion is a cornerstone, chosen, precious: and he who believes in Him will not be ashamed” (1 Peter 2: 6). This example was followed by many peoples of the earth,

constructing pagan temples and temple complexes leaving into the clouds. Recently, the construction of the 1930s, begun under Stalin (but not completed!), Is the Palace of Congresses, which should have been crowned with a Lenin figure of such a size that, according to the architects, two libraries and a cinema would be located in one finger . This palace was supposed to become a symbol of militant atheism, supposedly defeating “outdated” Christianity, but the leader, of course, had to appear before the world as the “winner” of Christ! The fate of this idea and the construction started are known. But also unfulfilled, this project is on a par with the Tower of Babel, the Temple of Artemis of Ephesus and other "witnesses" who warn us, people of the end of the 20th century, about the danger of a way apart from God.

Secondly, the construction of ziggurats was a symbol of human power, the glorification of the human mind. And again, reading the pages of history, we see attempts to glorify and glorify his name at different times and from different rulers - kings, emperors, prime ministers, presidents, general secretaries, philosophers, scientists and artists, etc. An endless list of names that can continue and continue - Cyrus, Nebuchadnezzar, Macedonian, Octavian-Augustus, Nero, Traian, Charles V German, Napoleon, Lenin, Hitler, Stalin; the philosophers Rousseau, Voltaire, Montesquieu, who idolized the human mind and who prepared the Great French Revolution with their ideas; Darwin with his theory of evolution, the ideologists of fascism and communism, who also tried to build a paradise on earth at the cost of millions of victims without God. Here, dear reader, we can be with you, if in our life we rely on our Self, exalt ourselves, not Jesus Christ.

Thirdly, the construction of ziggurats showed that a person can himself reach the sky, become like God, for the tower connected heaven and earth in the representation of people. This idea is extremely tenacious, for even today many confessions assert that a person can achieve salvation and eternal life by his own efforts with his deeds and

performing certain rites.

Fourth, the ministry of the priests in the ziggurat showed that between heaven and earth there is a need for an intermediary capable of appeasing the fearsome god. It is from here that the teachings about holy mediators between God and people, about clerics as intercessors before God, originate. However, all these statements contradict the Bible, which states: “For there is one God, one and a mediator between God and men ... Christ Jesus” (1 Tim. 2: 5).

Fifthly, the ziggurat was the center of astrology, magic, occultism, which found tremendous, growing popularity in our time. We will talk about them in detail in another part of this book, and now we’ll only note the main thing: the very idea underlying astrology, namely the prediction of fate and the ways of influencing it, negates faith in God.

Sixth, the luxurious architecture of the tower and the majestic mysterious, incomprehensible to ordinary people service, sent to the temple, were intended to fascinate and subdue the feelings and mind of a person, paralyze his will, deprive him of his freedom of reasonable choice. The same technique was later used by almost all world religions in the construction of huge cathedrals with rich frescoes, statues, paintings, many hours of tedious services, often in languages that most people did not understand.

How it differs from the ministry, the example of which was given by Jesus Christ during His earthly life, spent in nature, in modest homes! So, as we see, the ideas of the ancient ziggurats continue to live today. It is not for nothing that in the Bible, one of the prophecies of which we partially led to this chapter in the epigraph, the apostate forces are called Babylon.

Assyrian state

From III thousand on the Middle Tigre there was a nominal state of Ashur, founded by a special one, separated from the others and settled here, in a foreign ethnic environment, approx. 3000 a group of Akkadians worshiping the eponymous tribal god Ashshur. In the XXI century. Ashur was a member of the power of the 3rd dynasty of Ur, then the Hurritan princes occupied him and rebuilt (from that moment the Assyrians counted the beginning of their statehood), and ca. 1970 power passed into the hands of the dynasty of the Ashurts. From this time on, for six centuries, Ashur remained a “nominal” state, periodically subordinate to the neighboring great powers and headed by the “governor” of Ishshiakkum (Akkadian form of Sumerian “Ensi”) - the supreme representative of the Ashshurt community, who had not yet risen above it. In science, the “Old-Assyrian” (20th-16th centuries), “Middle-Assyrian” (15-11th centuries) and “New-Assyrian” (10-7th centuries) periods are distinguished, mainly in accordance with the stages of the development of the Assyrian dialect.

In the XX century. The Ashur rulers laid a way to the west, to Asia Minor, where in the 19th century, the military trading expeditions paved the way. a network of trade colonies founded by Ashurfur with the center in Kanisha flourishes. International trade unheard of enriching Achshchur, which lies at the crossroads of trade routes, and attracted the attention of the conquerors. At the end of the XIX century Ashur was captured by the Amorite leader Shamshi-Adad, who turned him into the specific center of his Upper Mesopotamian power, in 1757, under the son of Shamshi-Adad Ishme-Dagan, Ashshur was annexed by Hammurabi, and around 1740, during the turbulent times the cassations invaded Mesopotamia, regained its independence under the rule of a descendant Shamshi-Adad. The Shamshi-Adad family soon gave way to other dynasties, but the time of his reign was forever recognized in Ashshur as a brilliant page of his own history, and even the ancestors of Shamshi-

Adad later became included in the Assyrian royal list.

In the first half of the XV century Ashur, who feared the power of the neighboring state of the Upper Mesopotamian Hurrians - Mitanni - establishes diplomatic contacts with Thuthmos III, who is waging a fierce war with Mitanni. In response, in the middle of the XV century Mitanni king Saussadattar ransacked Ashur and forced him to recognize dependence on Mitanni. At the beginning of the XIV century Ashur got rid of the Mitanni rule at the cost of Babylonian recognition, and then rejected him, and Ashshur ruler Ashshuruballit I (1353-1318) wrote to Pharaoh Akhenaten, already calling himself a “king” (although he didn’t name himself in the country). Ashuruballit was destined to turn the nominal state of Ashur into the mighty territorial kingdom of Assyria, which was a real geopolitical coup (third quarter of the 14th century).

Taking advantage of the sharp weakening of Mitanni due to unsuccessful wars with the Hittite king Supppilulium and dynastic unrest, Ashshuruballit intervened in the affairs of the Mitanni and became their senior ally. When Suppilulium sent the Hittite troops to Mitanni, Ashshuruballit came out against them, and despite the temporary successes of the Hittites, who had driven him and his Mitanni allies to the east, after the death of Suppillulium he drove the Hittites from Upper Mesopotamia and went to Euphrates.

As a result, the eastern regions of Mitanni, including the largest cult center Nineveh (Ishtar was worshiped here), Ashuruballit retained and annexed, and Mitanni itself and even Babylonia at one time were controlled by his troops. Assyria has evolved from a city-state into a great military power, which was destined to exist for about 700 years, terrorizing all its neighbors. The formation of the state was completed under Adadnerari I (1295-1264), which finally turned the power of the Assyrian ruler into the royal one, standing over the Ashur civilian community: Adadnerari was the first to formally title the king and claim

the status of a “great king” equal to the kings of the great powers of Front Asia.

His successors Salmanasar I (1263-1234), who destroyed and annexed the remnant of Mitanni, and especially Tukulti-Ninurta I (1233-1197), are already trying to achieve actual primacy among all the great powers. The history of Assyria of this, the first time of its great-power (second half of the XIV-XIII centuries) - this time almost continuous wars against the Hittites in the west and the Babylonians in the south, with varying success; Assyrians repeatedly increase the scale of strikes, but sometimes they themselves endure ever more severe defeats. In the XIII - early XII century. Assyrians annex four times and four times lose the neighboring territories of Upper Mesopotamia. On both fronts, their successes brought Tukulti-Ninurta to the apogee, who raided Hittite Syria and temporarily annexed all of Babylonia. Having decided, in the wake of these successes, to completely free himself from the need to reckon with the leaders of the civil society of Ashurites, he built instead of Ashur new, military-service capital Kar-Tuqulti-Ninurta. However, by the end of his reign, the Hittites and Babylonia deprived Assyria of most of its conquests, and then the Ashursk elite overthrew and killed him.

In the XII century. Assyria is experiencing a period of decline, struggling with approx. 1165 by the Balkan tribes of the "flies" that had just destroyed the Hittite kingdom, also with the Elam invasions. At the turn of the XII - XI centuries. Assyria unexpectedly experiences a new take-off under Tiglatpalasar I (1114-1076), which conquered vast territories from the Chorokh and the sources of the Kura to Babylon, Phenicia and the fragments of the Hittite kingdom in Southeast Asia Minor (inclusive).

Already at this time formed the main features of the Assyrian military power. These were:

- duality in the position of the kings: the powerful civil community of the indigenous Assyrians retained self-government and had not much less powerful authority than the king himself, unable to do without its resources and support for the time being. The tsar's rather limited power over the indigenous Assyrian cities with full power over the conquered territories encouraged the kings to build new, serving capitals, breaking away from the Ashurish community (however, Ashshur always retained the significance of the sacred capital of power), and then transfer the main support of his power from the Assyrian root to the serving mass, detached from any communal traditions, gained including, if not mainly, from the conquered territories. This strengthened the royal power, but eventually led to the formation of a “denationalized” self-sufficient state, divorced from its root base and thus weak.

- The Assyrian power in the first centuries of its existence was the fruit of an attempt by a single civil community and the royal military service yard formed under it to seize power over the whole of Western Asia. The inadmissibility of this task, compared with the limited resources of the aboriginal Assyria, forced the kings to compensate for this weakness by the extreme tension of military activities and the intimidation of their neighbors, but did not allow them to firmly master the conquered areas; therefore, Assyria is characterized by continuous military expansion, multiple conquests of the same territories, and the struggle against equally continuous uprisings of the conquered peoples;

- hence the unprecedented cruelty of the Assyrians during conquests and punitive campaigns (in particular, mass destruction and executions were used, and from the VIII century the so-called "uprooting" policy - deportation of huge masses of the population to remote areas of the country);

- The empire existed in the characteristic "pulsating" rhythm: the reign of each king usually began with the suppression of insurgency

caused by the death of his predecessor. Then he tried to make new conquests. With the death of the king, part of the lands attached to him immediately fell away, and everything repeated again. In general, the scale of the Assyrian conquests was slowly but steadily expanding;

- there was a special ideology of the “holy war”, according to which the wars of Assyrian kings are undertaken on the orders and for the glory of Ashur, the patron god of the city and kingdom (which reflected the exceptional role of the Temple of Ashur in the functioning of Assyrian statehood).

As a result, the history of Assyria is a cycle of military upsurge and decline. Three times (the beginning of the XII century, the beginning of the X century, the first half of the VIII century BC) Assyria loses most of the occupied territories and returns them again, each time increasing the scale of expansion.

In the second quarter of the XI century. hordes of nomadic Arameans moved from the Syrian steppe and southern Syria to Mesopotamia and the neighboring countries; OK. 1000 they broke through the Euphrates, dropping Assyria into its original cities. The state came to an extreme decline, from which Adadnerari II (911-891), which broke the Upper Mesopotamian Arameans, led it out. When Ashurnatsirapal II (883-859, even by Assyrian standards, he fought unusually fiercely, and his typical boast was: "I took the city, killed many soldiers, seized everything that could be captured, cut off the heads of the fighters, folded the tower in front of the city heads and bodies, folded the tower of living people, put people alive on pins around the city, burned them on fires ”), Salmanasar III (858-824 g .; Salmanasar in 853 brought out 120 in the battle of Karkar in Syria thousand people - an army unprecedented for that time - but, however, did not achieve success) and Adadnerari III (810-783 d., at the beginning of the rule under the care of the mother, the famous Sammuramat-Semiramis)

Assyria, firmly annexing the whole of Upper Mesopotamia, spread its military campaigns and temporary political control in South-East Asia, Eastern Mediterranean, southern regions of the Armenian Highlands, Babylonia and western regions of Iran right up to the Caspian Sea, but nowhere could firmly establish itself, and the confrontation between the king and the root of Assyria once led to a severe civil war. In the first half of the eighth century. Assyria loses all its possessions, except Upper Mesopotamia, under the blows of Urartu.

A new usurpion of Assyria was initiated by the usurper-warlord Tiglatpalasar III (745-727 BCE), who carried out a number of important reforms to strengthen royal power (unbundling governorships, creating a huge standing army on the maintenance of the treasury, refusing to attract militia, introducing policies deportations - “uprooting”). The army was completely transformed - armed with iron weapons, the chariots were replaced by cavalry, special services appeared - sapper and reconnaissance. Tiglatpalasar III almost completely transferred the support of the royal power to the denationalized military service mass (mainly Aramaic) from the indigenous Assyrian cities.

At first, this gave the kings unprecedented power and allowed them to begin a new series of conquests: in 743-735, Tiglatpalasar defeated Urartu and its allies in Syria and Southeast Asia Minor, subordinating the last regions and tearing off a strip of land from Urartu in the south of the Armenian Highlands, then he conquered the entire Eastern Mediterranean, and in 729 conquered Babylonia and annexed it to Assyria as a personal union. He made major conquests in Media, in Western Iran. From the time of Tiglatpalasara, the conquered areas are increasingly passing under the direct authority of Assyria, including in its provinces, although vassals remain on the periphery. His successors tried to keep the falling away areas, to expand the power and then push the privileged indigenous cities (where the temples were the main force), then reconcile with them.

Salmanasar V (727-722 BC) stifled the rebellion of the kingdom of Israel and annexed it, besieging Samaria. The usurper Sargon II (722-705 BC) took Samaria, and later waged wars in the mountainous north, against Midas of Phrygia at the boundaries of Southeast Asia Minor and against Rus I in Urartu (in 714 BC). He suddenly invaded Urartu, defeated him and plundered the sanctuary of the Urartu god Haldi in Mutsatsir (Upper Zaba), and in the east, significantly expanding Assyrian possessions in Medes and organizing several provinces there, and in the south against revolting Babylonians and allied ones Elama. He died in the struggle with the Phrygians in the Taurus Mountains. Sargon built a new royal residence Dur-Sharrukin ("The Fortress of Sargon"), and his descendants - Sargonida - ruled Assyria until her death.

Sinaherib (705-681), a fierce king-soldier, moved the capital to Nineveh. He lost almost the entire South-East of Asia Minor, but was able to crush the resistance of the Jews and defeat Egypt, trying to support it (701), and spent most of his reign in the war with rebellious Babylon and his Elamian allies. In 691, he defeated them at the Battle of Halul, leaving a colorful and rough description of their defeat in the inscriptions, and after the siege of 689-688, he took and completely destroyed Babylon himself, completely annexing Lower Mesopotamia.

In 681 he was assassinated by conspirators, and his successor was Asarhaddon (680-669 BC.). However, this ruler was able to overcome the obstacle with the help of priests. His reign Asarhaddon restored Babylon and Babylonia as a special kingdom, located in union with Assyria. Esarhaddon was forced to face the Iranian-speaking nomads who invaded West Asia — the Cimmerians and the Scythians; in 679, he repelled the invasion of the Cimmerians in the north-west, and ca. 675 - 672 coped with the crisis caused by the emergence of the Scythians in northwestern Iran (where, in connection with this, Assia was postponed from Assyria), concluding with the Scythians who created their kingdom

in Iran, which became the main factor in the protection of the Assyrian borders in the North. In 671 he conquered Egypt and subjugated the Assyrians to the North Arab tribes.

His successor, Ashshurbanipal (668-627; in Babylonia, his brother Shamashumukin, under the will of Esarhaddon) sat with him in the 660s. achieved the spread of the supreme power of Assyria to the south and west of Asia Minor (Lydia and Frigi— "Mushka" recognized Assyrian power out of fear of the Cimmerians), Media and Primur Manna in Iran, and in 663 finally drove the Ethiopians from Egypt, defeating Thebes. However, then the line of failures came on: in 655-654. Egypt and the recent acquisitions in Asia Minor were set aside, in 653 the Medes rebelled and attacked Nineveh, from which Assyria escaped, only calling for help from the Scythians (they broke the Medes and temporarily subordinated them to their control), and in 652-648, Ashshurbanapal forced was to fight against the rebellious Shamashshumukin against him, his ally Elam, the Arab kings and the postponed rulers of Palestine and Phenicia.

With the greatest exertion of strength, Assyria defeated all its enemies; Babylon fell in 648 (his throne passed to Ashshurbanapu himself), in 644-643 the Assyrians annexed Elam and achieved recognition of their authority from Urartu, Lydia and Persia. Assyria has reached the greatest territorial stretch, but now its power rested largely on an alliance with the Scythians. When those in the 630s suddenly attacked Assyria, they were broken; the Scythians plundered the western part of the Assyrian possessions right up to the borders of Egypt, and Assyria lost all possessions to the west of the Euphrates. The defeat caused distemper in Assyria (in particular, Ashurbanfal was removed from the supreme power, and only the youngest Babylonian throne was left to him), during which in 626 BC Babylonia, headed by the Chaldean prince Nabopolassar, was again laid aside. The war of the Assyrians with the Babylonians went on with mixed success, until Midia did not come

out against Assyria in 615; the Assyrians did not endure the struggle against this alliance, although Urartu and Mann fought on their side, and from 616 the allied Egyptian troops fought. The war turned into a "world" by the then Middle Eastern standards.

In 614 BC Medes captured Ashshur, Nineveh fell in 612, where King Sinsharishkun set himself on fire so as not to be captured; the last Assyrian king, Ashuruballit II, retreated to Harran in the west of Upper Mesopotamia, but this fragment of the state was also destroyed by the Babylonians in 609 BC. The population of the indigenous Assyrian cities was completely exterminated, and later the “Assyrians” were called Arameans - the main population of the Assyrian state. Assyria was so bitter with its cruelties the people of the Middle East that the death of Nineveh provoked the following reaction in the Old Testament: “Woe to the city of blood that is full of deceit and robbery, where predation does not stop! The noise of the whip and the noise of the wheels spinning, and the galloping horses, and the moving chariots the horsemen bring in a flaming sword and a blazing spear - and behold, the multitude of the slain, the corpses have no end, they stumble upon the bodies of the slain! Anyone who looks at you will say: “Nineveh has been defeated! Who will regret it? Where will I find you a comforter? Everyone who hears the news of you will be applauded, for whom has your anger not continually spread? ”

The sudden fall of Assyria was caused by two factors: the military-service mass, cut off from any social traditions, on which the Sargonids relied, eventually turned into self-sufficient power (which was the main factor of unrest and fall of its military effectiveness), uniting Front Asia and dragging more and more neighboring countries into the orbit of a single policy, Assyria itself rallying them around a common goal - the desire to destroy it, and brought upon itself the blows of such broad coalitions that it could not resist.

Who are the Aryans and where is their ancestral homeland?

So many rumors, legends and conjectures are connected with the Aryan people that some people are already inclined to consider them to be an invention, and any information about their past is falsification. Due to the fact that the events of their lives have separated thousands of years from us, it seems that it is simply impossible to understand the intricacies of the Aryan people wandering around the world. But it is worth a try, considering how significant is the trace left by the Aryans in the history of Eurasia.

Historians and linguists do not like to use the word "Aryans". The fact is that this name of the group of ancient inhabitants of Eurasia, after it was usurped by the adherents of the racial theory from the Third Reich, began to sound, as they say, “politically incorrect”. But the Aryans, which existed several thousand years ago, are not at all to blame. So who are the Aryans and where is their ancestral home?

So said Tilak

At the end of the 19th century, a theory of an Indian scholar named Bal Gangadhar Tilak made a lot of noise in the peaceful world of historians, who drew attention to some strange traits in the worldview of the ancient Aryans.

He explained their acquaintance of the people with the circumpolar regions of the Earth. Tilak interpreted these facts as an argument in favor of the Arctic homeland of the Aryans and of all Indo-Europeans in general. Or maybe the whole of humanity. Since then, the academic world has split: units accept the Tilak hypothesis, the overwhelming

majority rejects.

Factors far from science have a significant influence on the opinion of this very majority.

First, Tilak was politically unreliable from the point of view of the British colonialists. In other words, he was a staunch fighter for the independence of India, and for the sake of this, during the First World War, he tried to establish cooperation with Kaiser Germany and Sultan Turkey. So the British tried to discredit Tilak before the world of “whites” in all respects, including his scientific views.

Secondly, Western science is not at all inclined to take seriously the opinion of a person who does not belong to its civilization.

What did such a seditious Tilak say? He analyzed the mythological picture of not only the Indian Vedas, but also the Avesta - the holy book of the ancient Iranians. And he pointed out that these sources (especially in the Vedas) reflect the physical realities of the polar regions of the Earth.

In particular, the long winter (ten months of the year, according to the Avesta), regularly freezing and opening waters. But the most important thing is the polar night, the long polar twilight, and also the light season, which includes only ten lunar months.

Tilak showed that the same ideas are contained in the myths of all Indo-European peoples, but in the Vedas and Avesta they are better preserved.

The findings that Tilak made were quite radical. In addition, he tried to link them into a single scheme with the history of the ice ages of the Earth. Tilak argued that the Aryan ancestral homeland was located

near the North Pole during warmer climatic epochs. The beginning of a cold snap forced the Aryans to move south.

So began the resettlement of the Indo-European community and its disintegration. The fact that the picture of the climatic history of the Earth turned out to be more complicated than it was at the time of Tilak, and the dates to which he tried to link the history of the Aryans, were not confirmed, was the third important reason for the distrust of his hypothesis.

However, even if the Tilak hypothesis is incorrect in a number of its essential components, the facts noted by it still need to be explained. It is clear only that the religious ideas of the Aryans really reflect familiarity with life in the northern regions of Eurasia.

Tilak's hypothesis cannot be accepted in its literal presentation. But this is not a reason to completely deny the presence of rational grain in it. Information about the familiarity of the ancestors of the Indo-Europeans with the circumpolar regions of the Earth can be interpreted in a new way on the basis of modern ideas about the ancient climate and the paleogeography of our planet. There is no reason to completely exclude the Arctic from the habitat of people of ancient times.

Throw south

So, 4,000 years ago, the Aryan tribes, who presumably lived in the steppes of the Urals and the Black Sea region, and before that in the more northern regions, migrate to the south. First - in Iran, then - on, to India. It should be noted that India was then settled by dark-skinned peoples, the ancestors of the current Dravidians. Arias were typical representatives of the European race, white-skinned.

The penetration of the Aryans into India was not a one-time action,

but a process that stretched for hundreds of years. This period in the history of India is called Aryan, or Vedic. It was during this era that the greatest monuments of Indian and world culture were created — the poetic epics of Mahabharata and Ramayana. Vedic civilization - in many ways a mystery to scientists. On this subject there are many speculations, speculations and theories.

With confidence we can only say the following. By the middle of the 2nd millennium BC, Aryan civilization already existed on the territory of Northern India, the basis of the world view of which was the Vedas and Vedic literature. These ancient sacred texts, in addition to purely religious functions, were a repository of knowledge in all areas of life: military science, medicine, urban planning, mathematics, astronomy, music.

Only some monuments of Vedic literature have survived. The most famous of them are the Mahabharata and the Ramayana, as well as the four Vedas, Upanishads and other scriptures. It was at this time that Indian society began to be divided into estates (varnas): sudras (then proletariat), vaisyas (merchants and farmers), kshatriyas (warriors and rulers) and brahmins (priests and mentors) - a tradition that eventually turned into a caste system and prevalent in India so far.

Fire and sword

The resettlement of the Aryans across Hindustan proceeded slowly and stretched for centuries. They reached the lower reaches of the Ganges only by the 6th century BC. Aryans have not been able to inhabit South India right up to the present. These were not simple military expeditions, ending with the return of military teams to their former habitats. It was a planned invasion. Moreover, the invaders passed through the lands of their opponents, as they say, with fire and sword.

The basis of the Aryan economy was agriculture and cattle breeding. The Aryans were also skilled warriors, who often fought with other Aryan and Dravidian tribes that inhabited North India at that time. In contrast to the previous civilization, the Aryans had developed weapons, including chariots. They built fortresses, the remains of which are still preserved (for example, on the territory of the ancient capital Indraprastkhi near Delhi), as well as skillful, thoughtful techniques of warfare. Gradually, the Aryan tribes drove the dark-skinned Dravidian peoples to the south of India.

By the middle of the 2nd millennium BC, on the territory of Northern India — from the Himalayas to the Vindia hills and from Afghanistan to Bangladesh — large tribal groups began to form from disparate tribes, which later formed kingdoms. By the end of the Vedic period, there were sixteen major Aryan kingdoms in northern India.

In the Vedas, there are stories of some wonderful models of weapons that the gods of the Aryans fought. For example, it was told about vimans - aircraft, with the help of which it was possible to move with great speed through the air. Or about the terrible weapon of the god Indra, whose action resembled nuclear bombardment. You can, of course, laugh at the fantasy of the ancient compilers of the Vedas, if it were not for the one archaeological site found in the territory of present-day Pakistan.

It is about Mohenjo-Daro (translated from the language of Sindhi - "Hill of the Dead").

Until now, archaeologists can not exactly say how this city was actually called and who inhabited it. Only one thing is precisely known - it is one of the greatest of the cities of antiquity. And one of the most mysterious - he died about 3,700 years ago under very unusual and until now unexplained circumstances.

Such ancient megalopolises rarely collapse suddenly. And in Mohenjo-Daro everything indicated that the catastrophe came suddenly, almost instantly. The most common opinion is that the city fell during the Aryan invasion. In the writings of some archaeologists reported that during the excavations were found traces of the battle.

In one of the houses were found skeletons of thirteen men, women and one child. Their remains bore signs of sudden death. But they were not killed and robbed - some were bracelets, rings, beads. Throughout the city, archaeologists stumbled upon similar groups of skeletons, which testified that before their death, people walked freely through the streets and were caught unawares by death.

From the studies conducted, one thing was clear: Mohenjo-Daro was the victim of some kind of disaster. It happened suddenly and did not last long. However, its strength was such that it led to the sudden and total destruction of the whole city. Another interesting fact is that almost simultaneously with Mohenjo-Daro, other nearby large cities also died.

Antique Hiroshima?

A very original version of the death of Mohenjo-Daro was presented in his book “The Atomic Explosion in 2000 BC” by the Englishman David Davenport and the Italian Ettore Vincenti. English explorer of culture and languages of ancient India Davenport, a connoisseur of Sanskrit, was born and lived for some time in India. He was obsessed with the idea of translating the ancient Indian texts from Sanskrit into English and an objective interpretation of the philosophical meaning and historical facts set forth in these texts.

He also lived for twelve years in Pakistan, studying the ruins of Mohenjo-Daro. Davenport, in association with Vincenti, found that about

3,700 years ago, on the top of a hill around which Mohenjo-Daro was built, an explosion of tremendous power, like an atomic bomb, thundered. The researchers placed in the book mentioned a scheme for the destruction of buildings.

If you look at it carefully, you can see a clearly defined epicenter, within which all the buildings are swept away. As it moves from the center to the periphery, the destruction decreases, gradually fading away.

It becomes clear why the outlying buildings are the best preserved buildings of Mohenjo-Daro. A careful examination of the destroyed buildings, the authors found that the diameter of the epicenter of the explosion is about 50 meters. At this point, everything is crystallized and melted, all structures are wiped off the face of the earth. At a distance of 60 meters from the center of the explosion, the bricks and stones are melted on one side, which indicates the direction of the explosion.

The researchers also found that the ancient city destroyed three powerful shock waves that spread a mile from the epicenter of the explosion. Among the ruins in the area with a radius of over 400 meters are scattered pieces of clay, ceramics and some minerals that have undergone rapid melting. All the people who were in the epicenter instantly evaporated, so archaeologists did not find skeletons there.

The researchers sent the so-called black stones, which were scattered throughout the city, to the Institute of Mineralogy of the University of Rome and to the laboratory of the National Research Council (Italy). It turned out that black stones are fragments of pottery, caked at a temperature of about 1400-1600 degrees, and then hardened.

From one root

So, the ancient Aryans left to conquer India and remained there

forever. But did they all migrate from their ancestral homeland? Scientists believe not. In the XVI-XIII centuries BC, the state of Mitanni existed in Northern Mesopotamia (Northern Iraq). The surviving names of many of his rulers say that they were Aryans. They worshiped the same gods as the Vedic arias - Indra, Mithra, Varuna.

It is believed that the Mitanni arias lived after the Aryan group was divided into Indo-Aryans and Iranians. Moreover, the Mitanniians were precisely the Indo-Aryans, more precisely, “protoindoaries”, since they did not reach India.

One should not represent the migration of ancient Aryans by a unidirectional process — only from north to south. Their settling of Iran and India is better known only because a civilization later formed in these lands, which preserved the memory of their arrival. Some groups of Aryans probably moved from their ancestral homeland to the north, west, or east. Some part of the Indo-Aryans even came to the Balkans!

Well, the Aryans themselves became the progenitors of peoples speaking languages belonging to the Indo-European group. Among them are our compatriots. So the ancient Aryans are our ancestors, whom we should not forget.

Marie - the city after the flood

In early August 1933, Lieutenant Kaban, who served under the commandant’s office in the Syrian town of Abu Kemal near the border with Iraq, made a regular detour to his site, saw a group of Bedouins looking for a large stone for the grave on the hillside of Tall Harriri. slabs to a dead relative. However, instead of a block of stone, they dug out a stone figure, devoid of a head, with arms folded across its chest. At the bottom of the sculpture could be seen some cuneiform inscription.

Marie - the city after the floodUsing the discovery, the Louvre Museum in Paris organized an expedition to the Tell-Harriri Hill, led by Andre Parro, a famous archaeologist and orientalist, later director of the Louvre. Very soon other similar statues were found. They portrayed a person walking with arms crossed. He had a long, well-groomed beard; the hair at the back of his head was gathered in a bun. All figures were accompanied by a short cuneiform line. Now the statues found by Parro are on display in the Oriental Department of the Louvre. After deciphering the cuneiform, it was possible to establish that they all depicted the kings of the city-state Marie.

Marie's name has been repeatedly found in ancient documents, previously found in other regions of Syria and Iraq. Archaeologists dreamed of finding this famous city in the ancient world, but it remained elusive. And suddenly the French were lucky. Parro found one of the oldest settlements that emerged at the beginning of the fourth millennium BC. For twenty years, archaeologists excavated an ancient hill in the Syrian desert and discovered truly fantastic things.

Excavations revealed the ruins of a huge palace of 300 rooms with private bathrooms and courtyards. Once it occupied a territory of at least 2.5 hectares. The king’s apartments were located in the northeastern part of the palace. Well-protected from the outside by walls seven, ten, or even fifteen meters high, they were connected to each other from the inside by narrow passages with a multitude of partitions. The enfilade of rooms led from the inner chambers of the monarch to the throne room, which was only 80 meters from the bedchamber, and the king could make this way, remaining virtually invisible.

Rooms for tsarist officials, private chambers, bathrooms - usually with two terracotta baths, immediately special, made of bitumen seats with armrests - for massage. The whole system of drains. When once

during the work of archeologists there was a downpour, and it seemed that the water opened by them inevitably flooded the premises, nothing of the kind happened: the system worked perfectly. In addition, to the surprise of the researchers, there were quite modern-type toilets with sewers in the palace, resembling those that had recently met at train stations, with small footboards made of asphalt.

The main kitchen was located next to one of the courtyards, there remained vaulted ovens. The crockery, decorated with all kinds of relief images, was also found here: a person leads a goat; in a swift cast, a lion overtakes a hefty bull; bird in flight; a hedgehog with a whole brood ezhat; groups of dogs, jackals, gazelles. A few meters from the kitchen were vast storerooms. In one of them, 11 large amphorae remained standing for centuries, standing on a long stand along the wall. Small steps led to them.

The ruins of the school, as well as the Ishtar temple, the most revered goddess of the East, appeared to the gaze of the researchers. Archaeologists have discovered several female figures. The women were long, to toe, fleecy dresses. And high headgear expanding upwards. Numerous sacred vessels lay everywhere, numerous beads of lapis lazuli with amulets pinned to them — owls, fish, and birds carved from mother-of-pearl.

At the beginning of the III millennium BC Sumerians, the founders of the world's oldest civilization, appear on the historical scene. They are settled throughout Southern Mesopotamia, from Mari to Souz. Myths Sumerians say that they come from the legendary Dilmun, located somewhere on the shores of the Persian Gulf. There is no consensus among scientists about their origin. The Sumerians were not Semites and until the time of the reign of Sargon of Akkad (2750 BC) there was not a single inscription in Semitic in all of Mesopotamia. The literary texts found in Ebla, the myths about the creation of the world and the Flood

associated with the Gomel epic poem about Gilgamesh were recorded in Semitic language in the second millennium BC. One of the texts said that Marie was the tenth city founded after the flood.

Andre Parro found that Marie arose somewhere in the beginning of the fourth millennium BC. e. The population of the city was originally Hurrian. The Hurrians are the people who created major city-states, such as Yamkhad, Alalakh and Alep. They were influenced by the Sumerii culture, adopting written language and many legends and myths. In the second half of the third millennium BC. e. population semitizirovalos. By this time, the new rise of Marie. Taking up key positions in the Middle Euphrates (Tell-Harriri is located 120 kilometers south of the confluence of the Khabur and Euphrates rivers), the rulers of Mari controlled almost all of Southern Mesopotamia and the trade routes that led from Anatolia (now part of Turkey) to the Persian Gulf . The city became rich in trade and thus incurred the envy of the gaining power of Babylon. His sovereign, the famous King Hammurabi, in 1758 BC. e. delivered a crushing blow. "At the behest of Anna and Enlil, he destroyed the walls of Mari" - as stated in one of the surviving cuneiform tablets. The invaders burned the royal palace, looted and destroyed the posad, leveling the houses of the citizens with the ground.

At the beginning of the 20th century, the German archeologist Robert Koldevey, who had been excavated Babylon, found some royal statues taken from Marie "captive". The former capital of the Middle Euphrates after the defeat was no longer able to rise. She brought the sands ...

Almost four thousand years later, the scholars presented the ruins of a palace, scorched by fire, and the Ishtar temple, desecrated by the Babylonian marauders. In the ruins they found 25 thousand cuneiform tablets that made up the richest library of the ancient world. Among them were found the texts - to the amazement of all the biblical scholars - with

reference to the tribes identical to the names of the ancestors of Israel (Nahor, Terah, Serug, Zebulon, Gad, Dan, Levi, Ishmael, Asher). Numerous documents reflect the economic life of the state of Mari, talk about economic ties with Syria, Babylon, Egypt and even with the island of Crete.

In the tsar's office dominated the strictest order. Everything was recorded and recorded, and all the plates were stored in large baskets strictly according to the accessories. “Related” baskets were set together.

In addition to the valuable tablets, the most remarkable discovery, which was recognized as the best sculpture of ancient Mesopotamia, is the statue of Ishtar, the goddess of fertility and rain. The participants of the expedition were struck by a vase, which she was holding by tilting forward. The vase was hollow, and a channel went through its bottom, which continued inside its whole figure. Careful research has given explanations for this fact. During the rituals, at the right moment, in response to the prayers of those present, the priests allowed water through this channel, and a high stream of water gleaming from the torch lights was poured from the vase of the goddess.

When the city was conquered by Babylon, Ishtar's eyes, made of lapis lazuli, were torn out, and the whole statue was crippled; it was assembled in parts and restored already in our days.

Amber is more expensive than life

The legendary capital of ancient Egypt - Thebes, located near modern Luxor, is primarily remarkable for the fact that in its vicinity is the famous Valley of the Kings. It was here that in the labyrinth tunnels laid in rocky soil, burial chambers and niches were cut down, concealing many unsolved mysteries that scientists have wondered about

comprehending.

It is necessary to study the Valley of the Kings unceasingly, for its colossal cultural layers help to answer the most difficult question about the dialectic of formation, development, decline of civilizations, about the influence of the past on the present and future. Finally, about what is the meaning of human existence. Is permanent sacrifice comparable when the life of a person from below is not worth a penny compared with the ambitions and whims of the satiated, from birth to death who are bathing in luxury, the powerful of this world and their entourage?

The tombs of the Valley of the Kings, reluctantly lifting an impenetrable curtain over their secrets, it must be admitted, highlighted the main thing. The Pharaohs, though considered heavenly beings and sons of the gods, along with representatives of the most insignificant low estates, clearly recognized the transience of life, the inevitability of leaving her stage. Exactly in accordance with the inscription on the fresco of one of the tombs: “Another resurrection after your death is doubtful. In the flesh of the carnal life, thank all that you have lived on earth day ”. This philosophy, apparently, was intended for the internal, personal use of the pharaohs.

Another people on the estate ladder lived in completely different dimensions, cruelly and clearly outlined by the ruling circles of ancient Egypt. Colorful details, the details of this life have opened and continue to us to discover contemporaries of the pharaohs, unsurpassed in the art of his master of the arrangement of tombs. Those who were respectfully called Lords of the eyes and mouth, warriors of the god Montu, warriors of the tombs.

CREATORS OF CHRONICLES

Every Egyptologist knows that the god Montu "specialized" in

patronizing the soldiers. The country of pyramids and heated deserts differed from other states in that more than half of young men, as it were said today, were reservists, that is, when there was a threat of an invasion from the outside, or it was necessary to wage wars of conquest, leaving peaceful professions, dressed in militarist ammunition. And in a special, honorable position there was an estate of decorators of the tombs of nobles who lived in a compact, closed to outsiders village of the Valley of the Kings, where, according to the will of the next pharaoh, food, water, everything necessary for professional activity and the best goods were delivered without interruption.

The privileged position of the Tomb Warriors stemmed from the fact that, according to the Tsar's Code, they directly participated in the arrangement of the Pharaoh’s after-death houses, their families, their dignitaries, in sacred heat and the lack of light, sacred underground spaces. The chambers prepared by them were intended both for the burial of the remains of the remains, and for the exodus of the imperishable luminous souls to Heaven, as in ancient Egypt called the cosmos. In addition, the Warriors of the Tombs were entrusted with transporting to the crypts of the property of the deceased, as a rule, of colossal values, which also had no less cultural significance.

Is it any wonder that these people, who were also walled up, were masked from the tombs of robbers, were given the right to wear the tattoo of Montu seal on the chest at the heart, a triangle girded with sun rays, inside of which is a symbolic image of the All-Seeing Eye and crossed sharp spears. If so, then in times of armed conflict, stonemasters, artists, sculptors of the Valley of the Kings led soldiers to battle. No one was embarrassed by the fact that, having died, they were taking into the grave the secrets of the craft, the chronicle information that they knew by heart.

The pupils, freed from military service, had the knowledge

necessary to recreate and copy the fresco wall chronicles. The students knew the recipes for paints, knew how to prepare them. Some of the “chronicle paintings”, bearing descendants of particularly important information, were covered with glass-like enamel, about which, unfortunately, we only have to guess about the chemical components.

TEMPLIES OF THE FARONS

Vitreous enamel was used exclusively in the paintings of royal tombs. The burials, where the mummies of the estate are not so high, were honored with only murals made with magnificent colors made from plant fibers, clays and minerals. And the genre-informational theme of these “ordinary” murals was mainly focused on everyday scenes, like a carbon copy, repeating from one such burial chamber to another.

Regal crypts are a completely different matter, for on their walls and ceilings the artists unfolded canvases of peaceful, military life, scenes of palace life, the daily activities of the pharaohs, their highest dignitaries. The tombs of the pharaohs are full of inscriptions, the vast majority of which are deciphered. The security of these descendants is in most cases excellent. Again thanks to the Soldiers of the Tombs. In this connection, it is impossible to keep silent about how, by what means they, scholars, devotees of antiquity, weaved historical canvases of their modernity, so that you can read, as written under one of the frescoes depicting the planets of the solar system, visible to the naked eye sands of a shaky time. ”

AMBER ROAD OF LIFE

To solve the riddle, why the decorators of the tombs were venerated by the ancient Egyptians, as pets of the god Montu, helped by the inscription on the wall of one of the tombs, shedding light on the recipe for making vitreous varnish. Having learned that the paints of the

painting “the chambers of eternity” were silicate, mixed on liquid glass, the scientists learned that melted amber was added to them. Amber was needed very much, it was valued on a par with gold. In the literal sense, it was worth more than life, because the Warriors of the Tombs had to win it in bloody battles. It turned out that this solar trophy often became more valuable in life for artists in armor.

Eloquent vitreous murals of the royal tombs of the II century BC, in which ancient artists, perhaps secretly, included, so to speak, a personal element - a red abstract image of the god Montu holding scales, on one side of which is a placer of glittering amber, on the other - an allegorical image pierced spears souls warrior artists. Amber is obviously heavier, for a bowl filled with it, overtights, tilted much lower. This is so that they would not doubt that they had to die for vitreous varnish, before showing miracles of courage.

The asceticism of warriors - decorators of the tombs - made an invaluable contribution to the cultural and historical heritage of mankind. Thanks to them, whose names we almost do not know, we have picturesque visual arguments in favor of the fact that people at different stages of evolution, striving for perfection, were able to do perfect. Chariots, dams, water lifts, weapons, clothing, dishes, furniture, jewelry. All that used in ancient Egypt. That without which, modified, we do not manage now.

Filibusters of the northern seas

Reading the stories of bloodthirsty and greedy pirates, in our imagination the rude faces of filibusters, who once plied the warm waters of the Caribbean Sea, will certainly appear. Yes, people like the famous Henry Morgan and William Kidd preferred to wield there. But in the northern seas, no less desperate daredevils wandered. By the XIV

century, the northern coast of Europe had its own army of pirates, acting under a clear code, which did not recognize any authority and no kings. Sometimes even the kings themselves turned to the corsairs for help. The basis of this wild flotilla was made by people from Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Germany and glorious Britain (where in the sea without them ?!).

In 1523, the King of Denmark, Norway and Sweden, Christian II of the Oldenburg dynasty, the son of King Johann and Christina of Saxony, leading a serious struggle for the crown and throne, deservedly suffered defeat, giving up all his royal regalia to Frederick I.

At one time, Christian had to sign a humiliating surrender to receive the crown, and a year later he was married to Isabella of Hapsburg, sister of Emperor Charles V. But after the marriage, his relationship with Dutch bourgeois Divek, which had a restraining influence on him, continued. In 1517 Diveke died. Christian finally became hardened against the nobles, whom Divek suspected of poisoning, and at the same time more and more fell under the influence of his mother-in-law, Divek's mother. The post of all the nobility turned against Christian II, and the crown moved to Frederick I. To whom Christian did not turn for help, but all was in vain. And then he sent messengers to the pirates who ruled the sea, kidnapping and reselling ships, robbing the merchant navy, engaging in robbery.

Christian II chose a couple of professional sailors - Christopher Trondsson and Otto Stangsson. They pledged to help Christian II in the fight against Frederick I. Both of them acquired unlimited rights in the fight against piracy in order to make a profit and direct finances to fight for the crown of Christian II. But the new assistants of the refugee king have achieved only this - the universal fear of the sea. In addition, Trondsson and Stingsson kept all the spoils for themselves, and for 8 years only one captured ship was transferred to the king.

In the end, they refused to serve Christian, devoting himself entirely to piracy. Their goal was the abduction and resale of ships, as well as robbery of merchant ships from Holland and Scotland. And in this they succeeded. Later, for his military merit, Christopher Trondsson hired the government of Norway as a fighting admiral, and the pirate transformed into a state husband, although, in truth, he deserved the gallows.

PIRATE ONE NIGHT

In the autumn of 1445, a German captain named Steffen Schmitt, together with the vessel and crew, fell into a strong storm off the coast of Norway. On board the merchant ship was a valuable cargo, which Schmit promised to deliver to his destination, for which he had already received a significant advance payment. The matter remained small, but the terrible weather forced the German captain to land at a small island near Yehren (western Norway), where the sailors began to repair the ship, and also waited by the sea for weather. This went on for several weeks, the weather did not improve.

One day, unexpected visitors came to the German sailors. He was a nobleman known in Norway by the name of Erlend Eindridesson, whose noble birth inspired the Germans with peace of mind and confidence. The Norwegian grandee came by sea on two well-armed military ships, whose crews were about 60 people of the corresponding type. True, in his homeland, Erlend was famous for his inordinate hatred for Germany and the Germans. Later it turned out that Oryland Eindridesson did not disdain to engage in piracy in his free time from serving the king. Captain Schmitt knew about it, and therefore reminded Erland that a peace agreement had been concluded between their states, which allowed the Germans to count on help. In addition, Schmitt presented the guests with a paper that allowed German sailors to move in Norwegian waters.

And Erlend agreed with the world to release the German ship. However, the ship Schmitt was not ready for a quick departure. This and took advantage of the pirates. On the same night, the Norwegian Varangians cut all the ship’s ends and anchors of the German ship, launching it into the sea. But the ship immediately began to sink, the Germans began to pray to the Norwegian sailors for help right from the ship in distress. And help came. True, the Norwegians confiscated the entire cargo from the Germans for saving. Schmitt told in Europe about the act of Erlend Eindridesson, but he did not bear any punishment for this shameless robbery.

SCANDINAVIAN FIGHTER

Martin Peklin was considered one of the most prosperous pirates of the northern seas of the XVI century. He was an extremely cruel and merciless brigand, he did not even spare his people, although he generously shared his booty with them, which earned him the respect of pirates. Once he managed to seize as many as 12 merchant ships in one day. But in 1526 he was not lucky. He met at sea with no less courageous sailors from Germany, underestimated them, for which he paid.

It so happened that the three merchant ships went to Scandinavia from Germany with household goods for the peasants, but they got into a storm and decided to wait it out in a small fjord. Merchant ships waited out a storm near the shore and even opened trade with local villagers. There was a thick fog on the sea, and therefore the merchants did not notice how the pirate ship was approaching. But the pirates, in turn, did not notice the merchant ships. So it all began peacefully.

And early next morning, two neat young men arrived at the merchant ship. They came to see the goods, but the main thing was to find out the number of seamen and guards on the German merchant

ships. These were spies of pirates who conducted reconnaissance before attacking merchants. But the captain of the trade caravan Trod suspected something was wrong and drove the scouts back home. The rest of the day was peaceful. But at the very dawn of the next morning, pirate captain Peklin ordered heavy fire at the merchant ships to be opened.

Sailors of merchant ships, in turn, proved to be brave fighters. A sea battle ensued, and the merchant ships took a pirates ship in a vice, which they clearly did not expect. The German sailors did not spare Martin Peklin, who died from a direct bullet hit in the head. Only 14 filibusters were able to escape from this meat grinder, another six pirates were captured by the merchants and surrendered to the authorities. Later they were hanged with a large gathering of people in order to show everyone what awaits sea robbers on land.

MARINE ROBIN GOOD

Known was the pirate of the northern seas, Klaus Störtebeker (1360-1401). No one knows who he was by nationality. But the legends about Klaus go to this day. His team was popularly called Likedelere, which translates to "Those who are equally divided." In Scandinavian countries, people remember him by the habits of Robin Hood. He robbed only the rich and was generous with the poor.

However, the age of Klaus was short. His authorities were caught somewhere in Hamburg, where they were tried and sentenced to be hanged. It was rumored that Comrade Klaus had stolen the dead body of his captain and buried him in a pile of gold coins and precious stones in a quiet place in Germany. According to another version, Klaus Störtebeker was hung on a gold chain, and therefore he suffered for a long time before he died.

According to the surviving documents, five comrades of Klaus

were pardoned and remained alive. In any case, Klaus Störtebeker was an unusual pirate, as the popular memory of murderers is merciless. And about he preserved the good memories of his contemporaries.

Beyond the wonders of the world to Yucatan

Archaeologists have announced an important event: they opened the intact tomb of the Mayan ruler. The tomb, built a half thousand years ago, for the first time became available to the inquisitive gaze of scientists. The mortal remains of the ruler of the mighty city-state were supposedly buried in the burial chamber.

Archaeologists have investigated the underground space using portable video equipment with remote control. There is no more precise information about this supposed burial of the noble Maya. An expedition operating in the south of Mexico, in the state of Chiapas, has begun to study an absolutely intact burial chamber, full of valuable artifacts. Archaeologists reported that, apparently, we are talking about the burial of one of the first rulers of the city-state of Palenque. Under the name of Palenque, scientists unite the ruins left by the Mayan culture in the jungle, occupying a considerable territory. The ruins of Palenque in 1987 are included in the UNESCO World Heritage List.

According to Mexican official sources, the tomb in Palenque has been known since 1999. However, archaeologists have long postponed its research, since the stone crypt is located directly under the base of the pyramid, and it is difficult to rule out the danger of collapse of the entire building. The burial chamber is part of the complex of structures surrounding the pyramid, the so-called Southern Acropolis. It is completely covered with dense tropical thickets, so it was very difficult to get to the tomb to look inside the room.

Archaeologists have seen a massive, richly decorated sarcophagus. However, with all the efforts of scientists, their instruments were not recorded either in the voluminous sarcophagus, or near it, no trace of the remains. Mexican archaeologists have suggested that the dead body of the ruler was laid directly on the ground, if he was buried there at all. The first pictures did not give an answer to the question of whether someone was buried in this underground crypt under the pyramid.

Archaeologist Martha Cuevas said that in the burial chamber they saw pieces of jadeite and beautiful sea shells. According to one of the scientific hypotheses, the entire so-called Southern Acropolis was a complex of graves - a kind of cemetery of rulers and nobles of the city-state of Palenque. But to confirm or refute this hypothesis, so far there is too little reliable information.

Meanwhile, in the Mexican state of Yucatan, archaeologists discovered seven new places, where traces of the early period of the formation of the Mayan culture remained. Based on a preliminary study of these archaeological objects, scientists concluded that the ancient Mayan culture began to spread much earlier than previously thought. Excavations were carried out on the eastern outskirts of the city of Merida, the capital of the state of Yucatan. Employees of the National Institute of Anthropology and History reported the results of the excavations. It turned out that the surveyed area was settled much earlier, that is, between 400 BC and 200 AD. Finds made at the excavations, scientists dated this period.

Archaeologists have really unearthed a wealth: fragments of buildings, human bones, funeral gifts, including a variety of painted ceramics. Particularly fruitful was the work in the area called Oksmul, where 75 human skeletons were found. The total area of the archaeological site is ten square kilometers.

Archaeologist Luis Raul Pantoja Diaz said that the northern part of the state of Yucatan, as excavations show, was settled from about the V century BC, and not from the classical period of Mayan culture, from III to VIII centuries AD.

The researchers were able to attack the trail of the early inhabitants of Yucatan during the implementation of a project developed by the National Institute of Anthropology and History, which is trying to save pre-Columbian archaeological sites on the outskirts of the city of Merida. The state capital is expanding rapidly, new buildings are attacking the old suburbs and the neighborhoods that are not yet built up. “Now we know that in the area of modern Merida there are very ancient architectural and historical monuments,” said project leader Pantoja Dias.

Mayan culture is one of the highly developed cultures of pre-Columbian America. Archaeological finds allow dating its origins to the middle of the second millennium BC. The Mayan culture flourished during the so-called classic period between the 300th and 900th year of the new era in the territory of modern Guatemala, Honduras and southern Mexico. Grand Mayan ruins remained from the powerful Maya, including Tikal, Copan and Palenque, which attract thousands of tourists from all over the world from year to year.

The Mayan culture center was located in the north of the Mexican peninsula Yucatan. To the east of Merida, the administrative center of the state of Yucatan, lies a complex of grand temples and pyramids of Chichen Itza, which is now called one of the wonders of the world. The painstaking work of archaeologists almost every year adds to the famous monuments new startling discoveries.

Cipher of the Great Pyramid

It would seem that a whole sea of articles was written about the pyramid of Cheops. But there are all the new information that makes us return to this eternal pretending topic over and over again.

How, for example, did she look originally? An American engineer, Raymond D. Manners, in an article published in November 1996, claimed that the Great Pyramid in its original form was distinguished by two features: the glittering surface and the edges concave in the middle part. The ancient builders covered the pyramid with a layer of polished limestone.

Its edges were so brilliant that they could be seen hundreds of kilometers away. In the morning and at noon, the sunlight reflected from this mirror surface was allegedly visible even from the moon. Locals looked at the pyramid and its polished stones with fear for centuries.

Lining stones have ideal right angles with straight lines deviating within 0.25 millimeters. Modern technology does not allow to place such blocks with greater accuracy. White cement, which held the facing stones together and made them waterproof, is still intact and stronger than the blocks it holds.

As for the concavity of the faces, the French scientists who accompanied Napoleon’s army in the Egyptian campaign were the first to guess about this. Later this fact was confirmed by the famous British researcher Flinders Petri. And nowadays, aerial photography has shown with complete certainty that the concavity of the faces, even if insignificant - only one meter, really exists.

Interestingly, the later pyramids were built with completely flat faces. Apparently, the main builder of the Great Pyramid hid the meaning and purpose of the concave from his descendants

and the secret of technology that makes this possible.

According to some scientists, peculiar concave "mirrors" on the sides of the pyramid served to focus the sun's rays on the day of the summer solstice. This day a fantastic action took place: thanks to the polished edges, the Great Pyramid sparkled like a diamond! At the focal point of the concave “mirrors,” the temperature rose to a thousand degrees, and crowds of people could hear a crackle coming from these points, increasing gradually to a thundering deafening sound.

Among the sparkling light and rumble from the central vortex above the top of the pyramid, waves of hot air rose upward. The illusion of a pillar of fire rising from the pyramid was created. Truly, this was the road along which the god Ra had condescended to people!

Pyramidology lives and wins

The calculations of scientists show that everything related to the location of the three main pyramids of Giza is not accidental: all their parameters are related to each other and were consciously chosen, with a special meaning. The director of the Bourges Observatory in France, Abbot Moret, discovered even more amazing things.

Multiplying the height of the Great Pyramid, which he took for 148.21 meters, by one billion, he got the distance from Earth to the Sun - 148,210,000 kilometers. But before 1860, this distance was considered to be somewhat larger than 154 million kilometers.

The same applies to the number "pi", which, according to Abbot Moret, can be obtained by folding the four sides of the base of the Great Pyramid and dividing the result by its double height. Sea believed that the architects of the Great Pyramid knew and much more: the length of a leap year; the distance that the Earth travels in its orbit in 24 hours; the

density of the earth’s matter; the average temperature of our planet, etc.

According to recent studies, the size, size, weight and mutual distances between the three pyramids and the Sphinx reflect similar proportions between the Sun, Venus, Earth and Mars. And in-depth analysis showed that the creators of the pyramids knew such a thing as the "golden section".

According to the Arab historian al-Ma-Sudi, who lived in the 10th century, the pyramids are not only a repository of all the knowledge of the ancient Egyptians in the field of astronomy, art and religion, but also contain prophetic predictions. One of the researchers, Robert Menzies, hypothesized in 1865 that if we take the sacred inch of the Egyptians as a basis and measure the length of the inner chambers of the pyramid, we can find the chronological dates of the most important events not only of the past, but also of the future.

Scottish construction engineer David Davidson (1884-1956), who spent 25 years studying and analyzing the pyramid of Cheops, took up such measurements. His results turned out to be really amazing.

Comparing the data he obtained with the text of the extremely mysterious and not yet fully decoded Ancient Egyptian "Book of the Dead", one can conclude that the pyramid of Cheops is a kind of supplement to the texts of this book and contains in its architecture dates of historical events of our history. The most amazing thing is that the pyramid with great precision indicates the date of birth of Jesus Christ, which in the “Book of the Dead” is called “Lord of the Pyramid” and “Lord of Death and Resurrection”.

This date is obtained by measuring the level of the camera of the Queen. Measuring the height of the threshold of the main gallery, you can find the date of the crucifixion of Christ, from which - again,

according to the "Book of the Dead" - the era of the salvation of humanity begins. Thus, the main gallery symbolizes the Christian era.

The galleries of the entrance to the pyramid allegedly give the dates of the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and other historical events before the birth of Christ. The main gallery, which is also called the Hall of Truth, after a series of events that relate to the distant past, indicates a date that is of great importance for our era — August 1914, that is, the beginning of the First World War.

The case of pyramidology, as they call this kind of decryption, is alive today. Thus, the writer Peter Lemezure in his book "The Great Pyramid Deciphered" states that the pyramid of Cheops contains prophecies that in 2014 this year will end the world that will last right up to 3989. If you do not go into unnecessary details, the pyramid allegedly states that starting from the current year to 2025 there will be a complete crisis of the materialistic system. On October 31, 2034, the sign of the Messiah will appear in heaven.

In 2039, Christ will incarnate as a physical person and will live until March 28, 2126. The period of its second coming will have the beginning of an era of intensive spiritual expansion, humanity will rise to a new moral level. Then Christ will appear three more times: in the periods 2134-2138, 2264-2368 and 2394-2499. And from 2989 to 3989, the era of the final deliverance of enlightened people, which will end in human spiritual salvation, will last.

Traces of the flood and the periodic table

Contains the work of Lemesure and more valuable observations. The author reports that the thickness of the blocks of the pyramid of Cheops, it turns out, is different in different rows. There are 26 distinct peaks in the 204 rows of masonry. Another author, I. Raymond Kept, in

his "Essays on Pyramidology" puts forward the assumption that the rows of masonry of the Great Pyramid correspond to the atomic weights of some elements of the periodic table.

Kept attaches particular importance to the tenth row of the clutch, corresponding to neon, which is the nucleus for all subsequent elements and the starting point for the further complication of atoms.

The atomic weights of the elements corresponding to different rows, in his opinion, are calculated as follows. It is necessary to take the value of this height in inches and move the comma one position to the left, thus dividing this number by 10. Thus, the 92nd row of the pyramid is 2387 inches above the 10th row, which gives the atomic weight of uranium (N992 in the periodic system), equal to 238.7. So it seems that the builders of the Great Pyramid encrypted their knowledge of the periodic system of chemical elements in it.

It is curious that in recent years there are facts that may testify in favor of the fact that the Great Pyramid was built before the Flood. Its base surrounds a layer of sedimentary rocks with a thickness of more than four meters. Sea shells are found in this layer and in one case even the fossilized remains of a sea cow. Radiocarbon analysis showed that these characteristic finds are about 11,600 years old.

In favor of the same can testify and ancient sources. Legends and myths indicate that before the Arabs removed the facing from the pyramid, on the stones, reaching approximately to its middle - 75 meters high, which is 120 meters above the present level of the Nile - one could see traces of water.

Al-Biruni, a medieval Arab historian, wrote in his work The Chronology of Ancient Nations: “The Persians and most of the magicians say that Westerners, warned by their wise men, built the temples of the

king and the pyramids at Giza. Traces of flood waters and wave marks are still visible on these pyramids to about the middle, and the water did not rise above these marks. ”

The conclusion seems obvious. If the last gigantic flood occurred in Egypt in about 10,000 BC, and the Great Pyramid retained evidence of this catastrophe in the form of markings from the waves on the facing slabs to about half of its great height, then it was built before this period.

Secrets of the ancient Picts

Many people consider the Picts the most mysterious people ever lived in Britain. They did not leave written sources behind them, and researchers have to be content with those obscure symbols that the Picts inflicted on the processed boulders in the valleys of Scotland.

Already for ancient Roman historians, the origin of the Picts looked very mysterious. Some considered them descendants of the Celts and the inhabitants of the Iberian Peninsula, others considered descendants of the Scythians. Descriptions of the appearance of the Picts also differ: they looked like fair-haired giants, then - short-haired brunettes. Information about the presence of two languages in the Picts may seem strange, but modern historians explain this paradox by the fact that the Picts were a mixed people. The common people, as scientists believe, came from the oldest non-Indo-European population, akin to the Spanish Basques, and the aristocracy - from the Celts. Moreover, the non-Indo-European language of the Picts has never been written. Only a few inscriptions remained, which were carved on a stone with the help of the so-called Irish Ogamic alphabet — they probably reflected some unusual names.

As for Ogamic writing, this is a kind of written system in which

short notches were made on the edge of a stone; each letter was designated by a specific number of notches applied at a certain angle. Moreover, scientists believe that the Irish Ogham picts borrowed already very late - in the VIII century.

In Irish, two lists of the Pictish kings were created. For the rest, the picts and their history have to be judged only by archaeological finds, as well as by written testimonies of other nations: the Romans, the British, the Irish, the Scots and the Anglo-Saxons.

It is still unknown whether the name "picts" was the self-name of these mysterious tribes or whether it came from the Roman word "picties", that is, "painted", "painted". The Irish people called them “kruitni”, and the inhabitants of Roman Britain, that is, the Britons, called “priti”. At the turn of our era, Roman sources mention the tributaries of Caledonius, Vako-Mags. Tezalov and venikonov. Over time, the Caledonians subjugated all the rest.

STRANGE TRADITIONS

Neighboring nations were amazed at the Pictish custom of covering their bodies with numerous multi-colored tattoos. That is why the picts and called "painted people." Tattoos were not just a decoration. They carried information - for example, about the social status of their owner - symbolically depicted various representatives of the animal world or fantastic creatures - the same as on the remaining Pictish stone slabs. In the images of these, it is quite possible to catch a certain similarity with the Scythian bestial style.

The Picta rules of matrimonial inheritance seemed strange to the neighbors. Thus, the Anglo-Saxon chronicler Bede Poved wrote: "If there is a doubt, they choose the king from the heirs of the female line rather than the male one, and this custom, as is well known, remains with the

Picts to this day." Trouble The Venerable wrote their chronicles in the VIII century, and the custom of such inheritance dates back to the times of the Bronze Age, if not earlier. Impressed contemporaries and sexual freedoms among the Picts. Roman writer Dion Cassius said that Empress Julia Domna, emperor's spouse Lucius Septimius Severus, reproached a certain Pictish woman of depravity, but she replied that the Romans secretly become the mistresses of the most miserable men, while the Pictish women openly converge with their best men people of their choice. This custom is also very similar to the Scythian.

For their living, “painted people” built piles of stone - stone towers up to 15–18 meters high, which were folded without using a mortar. Outwardly, they looked like ancestral towers, which were built in the Caucasus in due time. Moreover, such structures can be found not only in modern Scotland, but also on the Orkney and Shetland Islands, which speaks of the skill of the Picts-Sailors. Archaeologists also find large underground rooms in which prints are likely to keep livestock in the wintertime. The earthen walls, fortified from within by stones and logs, with which the Picts fenced their settlements remained.

In collisions with rome

The Picts were an extremely warlike people. The Roman Tacitus wrote down these words of the Pritensk leader Kalgak: "We are the most remote inhabitants of the earth, the last of the free, were protected ... by our remoteness and uncertainty surrounding our name ... There are no peoples behind us, nothing but waves and rocks." From here, from the edge of the earth, the Picts made their forays into the southern part of Britain. To protect this remote province with its tin mines from the “painted people”, the Romans built two protective walls here. Picts repeatedly attempted to assault them, sometimes successful. In such cases, the frontier areas of Roman Britain were severely devastated.

In 208, the ruler of Britain was forced to turn to the Roman emperor for help against these barbarians, and Emperor Septimius Severus decided to go there with his sons. He led the Roman fleet with 40 thousand legionaries to the Firth of Fort (North Sea Bay off the eastern coast of Scotland) and landed with the army ashore. Despite the fact that Septimius Severus defeated all the Pictish troops that he met and decapitated all the Pictish leaders captured by him, the emperor could not conquer the country he called Caledonia, and soon died, unable to withstand the climate of Britain. Later, the Roman commander Agricola defeated the Pritsenian army led by the aforementioned leader Kalgak. 10 thousand Picts and 340 Romans were killed in the battle.

But not so much time passed, and, according to the legend of the Victorian era, the famous IX Spanish “Triumphal” legion was almost completely destroyed in an unknown battle with “painted people”. This theory formed the basis of a series of novels by Rosemary Sutcliffe "The Eagle of the Ninth Legion", as well as the eponymous series, filmed by the Air Force in 1977, and the 2011 film.

According to reports, in the 60s of the 4th century, the Picts even reached London in one of their hikes.

WHEN ENDLESSLY ENDED

At the turn of the 4th and 5th centuries, Emperor Flavius Stilicho inflicted a series of cruel defeats on the Picts and the Scott allies of them, who moved from Ireland to the northern part of Britain. But Flavius had to withdraw his troops from Britain in order to fight the Goths.

In 409, Emperor Honorius, descended from a famous tribe of Vandals, wrote to the leaders of the Britons, that from now on they must take care of themselves. Imitating the Romans, who willingly called for

Germanic tribes, the leaders of the Britons began to invite the tribes of the Saxons, Angles, Utes, and Frisians to defend themselves against the Picts. But this played a fatal joke with the Britons: numerous immigrants began to flow from the continent, who began to seize the land of their "employers".

As a result, the southern part of Britain soon became fragmented into numerous British and Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, and in the northern part, next to the Picts, a Scott kingdom appeared called Dal Riad. The picts certainly experienced cultural influences from both immigrants from Ireland and from the powerful Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Northumbria. It was under this influence that the Picts were subjected to Christianization, and their king Nehton, at the beginning of the eighth century, even decided to end his days in the monastery. It was under Nehton that the first stone church appeared on the lands of the Picts. He also established himself as a skilled diplomat and was able to make Northumbria his ally in the fight against Dal Riad and the British kingdom of Strathclyde.

Following Nehton, Angus ascended the Pictish throne. He defeated other contenders for power on the battlefields, after which his ambitions went beyond the borders of the Picts country. He conquered the kingdom of Dal Riad, extending the effect of the Pictish laws to him, and even shipped with his army to Ireland. But after his death strange times came, when the Pictish kings ruled Dal Riad for a century, on the contrary, the Scots kings from Dal Riad ruled the Picts. The timelessness ended in the middle of the 9th century, Kenneth Mac Alpin, King Dal Riad, finally subjugated the Picts to himself, completely exterminating them to know.

As far as can be judged from the chronicles and legends, at first a large army of Picts, uniting almost all the military power of their kingdom, suffered a crushing defeat from the Vikings. After that, Kenneth Mac Alpin invited the surviving nobility to a feast, where the Pictish leaders were drunk and then interrupted. As the Scottish influx from Ireland continued, only a century later the picts assimilated and eventually turned into Scottish folklore into a race of pygmies or underground inhabitants, sometimes identified with elves. But the Scots could not find out the secret of the magical heather ale, which was

brewed by this fabulous people.

Assyrians. March of the indestructible

The Romans considered the Assyrian state to be the first "world empire" and the distant predecessor of their own empire, the Roman one. But the Romans were prudent and cautious: every time they won a piece of the world, they lived for a long time and added to the organism of their state. The Assyrians acted as if they truly tried to embrace the immense. Their enormous power, stretching from Egypt and the Mediterranean to Transcaucasia and the Iranian highlands and south to the Persian Gulf and the Arabian deserts, pulsed like an amoeba, blazing with insurrections and at the same time trembling with fear.

At one time in the world there was no army stronger than the Assyrian. Assyria lived in war and for war. There is no other example in world history for a country to wage almost uninterrupted wars for 700 years. And at the same time, the Pythagorean theorem was known here long before Pythagoras. And it was in the capital of Assyria, Nineveh, that the famous library of cuneiform tablets was assembled - an invaluable collection of ancient texts, thanks to which, in fact, we know so much about the ancient history of Mesopotamia.

Historical landscape

When the warriors of ancient Ashur in the XIV century BC under King Ashshuruballit set off on their first conquest campaign, to finally enter on an equal footing into the great game of the great powers of those days, they did not know that their march would continue for seven centuries. By this time, Babylon dominated between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, the Hittite kingdom took power in Asia Minor. Assyria has not yet risen, and the small city-state of Ashur had to survive in a

very difficult international situation. Looking at the dark well of history, we are not only incredibly hard to distinguish between the circumstances that made this situation, it is difficult even to clearly recall what, in fact, marked that era in a certain hypothetical list of the outcomes of human civilizations. Cuneiform? Ancient astronomy? Gigantic ziggurats, where they burned the sacrificial fire of long forgotten gods? Or are the winged bulls — the Kerubs — guardians of the royal gates, who, after a strange transformation of history, became cherubim, which is the highest category of angels in the angelic diversity of the Old Testament, after a long transformation? It is even more difficult to imagine that much earlier, 10 centuries before the chronicle beginning of its own Assyrian history, here, in Mesopotamia, history was already underway, there were already cities, developed irrigational agriculture, trade and slave trade, wars, palace intrigues — the whole complex of signs, characterizing the civilizations of antiquity up to Rome.

Before the beginning of the history of Assyria, almost a thousand years of the history of Dvorichchia passed. Ur, Lagash, Kish and Uruk rose and fell, a unified system of measures and weights was created, the annual calendar was calculated, laws of Uruinimgin, Tsar Lagash were proclaimed, from which, according to the logic of priorities, the law should be studied, and finally the most durable work was written world literature - "Epic of Gilgamesh."

The paradox of the history of ancient Mesopotamia lies in the fact that it was created by two peoples - Sumerians and Akkadians - completely unrelated to each other, but nevertheless considered themselves as one people, "blackheads".

The Akkadians were Semites, the Sumerians did not, but they got along very well side by side, learning the languages of each other since childhood, and later, when Sumer’s civilization fell, weakened by internal intrigues, the Akkadians absorbed the Sumerian culture,

retaining the knowledge of the Sumerian language as a "language for the initiated."

Mesopotamia was broken up into many kingdoms and city-states, between which, after the regular turmoil, Babylon rose to power after the great Hammurabi, and Assyria was forced to recognize her power over herself. The heart of the future Assyrian state - the city of Ashur - at that time was still a relatively small, albeit a strong center of a small state. And although Assyrian merchants already knew usury and had experience creating international trade "companies" at strategically important trade intersections, in the inner life of the city there were still many unsaved archaic. Until the XIV century BC. e. Assyria was called "alum Ashur", that is, the "community (god) of Ashur": in ancient Mesopotamia, the main sign of self-identification was not nationality, but belonging to a community and a state. Also "communal" was the ownership of land. The traits of "community" can be traced in the organization of power. And although the national assembly of the “small and great ones” had already lost its significance, the highest authority was still the “house of the city” - the council of the nobility. The council elected the city treasurer for one year, as well as a state administrative judge. And although in Ashshur there was a hereditary post of ruler - Ishshakkum, until the era of large military campaigns no one considered him a "king", and he performed mainly priestly functions.

Out of habit, considering the ancient rulers of the East as despots, we are deeply mistaken, because even at a later time no one considered the kings of Assyria and Babylon indisputable autocratic rulers, who were free to execute or pardon according to their whims. The king, to a greater or lesser extent, still remained responsible to the people and the "community" - this is evidenced by the "self-justification" preserved in the written language during the self-praise of the kings of Egypt, the Hittites and Mesopotamia, in which it was first stated that the people did not go hungry and, thanks to successful military campaigns, only

multiplied their wealth.

An even more vivid example of the accountability of the king to the people is the custom of “renewing the forces of the king”, which existed in Babylon, and in a relaxed form in Assyria. Its meaning is that one day a year the king had to undergo a special purification: he was subjected to humiliating rites - he was led through the streets, doused with water, ridiculed or cursed, spat on his face, and generally mocked him in every way. The king, who passed through this without a murmur, was considered completely renewed and refined and returned to the throne with honor. Sometimes the kings on this day in words refused power and put in their place swing rulers from commoners, they passed through a heavy rite, and the power was considered renewed by the real king. The next day, the ruler returned to power, which in fact did not part. This reception, however, did not always get away with it. One of the Babylonian kings did not wish to be subjected to humiliation and sent his gardener to shame the crowd instead of himself. But while the latter were ridiculed and spat upon, the king, who was hiding in the palace, choked on cereal and died, while the gardener remained king and reigned as good as his former master.

Of course, as the ruler’s power strengthened, this custom was a thing of the past - especially quickly in Assyria, whose kings became the all-powerful army commanders, with the commencement of the campaign era, it was unsafe to "joke" with. Nevertheless, the ancient Mesopotamia never knew the “ideological” autocracy, although the Assyrian kings approached it in practice. The concept of despotism and the unrestricted royal power came into history much later — along with the Achaemenids — the kings of the Persians. The Persians at the very end of ancient history invaded Mesopotamia and, having conquered it, opened the curtain for the last act called "History of the Ancient World": in these ten centuries (from the 6th century BC to the 5th century AD), the Greek Persian wars, the execution of Socrates, the Greek

colonization of the Mediterranean, the rise of Rome, the fall of Carthage, the revolt of Spartacus, the alliance of Cleopatra and Mark Antony, the excesses of Nero and the invasion is ready. However, we are occupied by events incomparably more distant and not so firmly rooted in European culture.

Gifts of Akhenaten

Trying to escape from the unfavorable historical circumstances - the actual vassalage and hostile environment, which almost completely strangled international trade that had fed Ashur from centuries, - Assyria in the 14th century BC made a bid for Egypt, which for its own reasons opposed the other great powers of the Middle East who threatened the Assyrians. With Pharaoh Akhenaton in Egypt, the Assyrian embassy was taken with honors, and although the terrible shout of Babylon was, logically, to interrupt the negotiations between the vassals of Babylonia and Egypt, this did not happen. On the contrary, the ambassadors exchanged generous gifts with Pharaoh and enlisted his support. Why did Egypt have to spoil relations with mighty Babylon because of some Ashur? But Akhenaten, apparently, immediately discerned in the messengers of Assyria ascending passionaries, who in the near future will be able to turn the whole historical order in the foreseeable space of the Universe.

Pharaoh was not mistaken. Over the next hundred years, the country of Assyrians, having seized vast lands, turned from the city-state of Ashur into the empire of Assyria and grew so strong that all its neighbors had to reckon with it. The time of historical outcast is over. Moreover, the founder of this great power, Ashshuruballit I, establishes kinship with the Babylonian royal house and by hook or by crook to ensure that his grandson is seated on the throne of Babylon - from now on Assyria will never give up the dream of controlling Babylonia - the greatest country of Mesopotam culture for Babylon and the Assyrians

themselves.

In the XIII century BC. e. Assyria begins a powerful military expansion, breaks the back of one of its long-standing enemies - the kingdom of Mittani - and under Tikultininurt I invades Syria. This was the beginning of an innumerable list of bloody victories and war booty, which in the end would turn it into a country with a "war economy": 30,000 prisoners were taken in Syria and turned into slaves, who would henceforth work for the greatness of the sons of Ashur. Moreover, Tikultininurta first captures Babylon, deposes the Babylonian king and takes away from the city a statue of the god Marduk, the patron saint of Babylon; in the north, he smashes a coalition of 43 Princes Nairi, and, capturing some areas of Transcaucasia, again rises to Asia Minor. It is most striking that all these victories fell to the lot of the city-state. Indigenous Assyria was, we repeat, extremely small in territory and population. It is enough to imagine that Russia would not have gathered around the Grand Duchy of Moscow, but around only Moscow alone, in order to imagine what assyrians were supposed to have a warlike spirit, defeating many times the superior enemy.

The establishment of control over the mountainous edges of the north-west gave Assyria one unexpected treasure, which played a decisive role in the history of its countless wars. This treasure was iron. Gradually, the Assyrians learned to process it and immediately applied it in military affairs. It is clear that a warrior in an iron cuirass was practically invulnerable to bronze weapons, and an iron-tipped arrow and an iron sword were able to crush the most powerful bronze armor.

Perhaps Assyria reached its peak in the early 11th century BC. e. under Tiglatpalasar I. This was a time of powerful changes in the ancient world: the "old ancient" kingdoms did not withstand the onslaught of the "new ancient" and, like Mittani and the Hittite kingdom, simply disappeared, giving them their place. Babylon was experiencing a

protracted political and environmental crisis (irrigated agriculture for many centuries led to the salinization of the soil, and the fertile fields of Babylonia turned into rather poor breadbaskets), and Egypt once again sharpened civil strife. In this situation, Assyria with an unwavering hand picked up the role of world leader.

Under Tiglatpalasar I, the soldiers of Ashur make more than 30 campaigns to the west, seizing northern Syria, Phenicia and some provinces of Asia Minor. The bundle of trade routes connecting the West with the East again falls into the hands of Assyrian merchants. In honor of its triumph after the conquest of Phenicia, Tiglatpalasar I arranges a demonstrative exit on the Phoenician warships to the Mediterranean. Rich gifts were immediately sent from Egypt to the victor. Premonitions did not deceive the great Pharaoh Akhenaten, who once hosted the Assyrian embassy: a handful of passionaries who did not know the fear, taking advantage of the moment, really turned the world around.

With sword in hand and Babylon in heart

The greatest problem of Assyria throughout its history was Babylon. At the same time, it was not only a problem external, political or military - at a certain stage of building up Assyrian military power, Babylon was no longer a serious threat to the army of Ashur - he was "taken" many times, but the more he turned into an internal problem, deep , ineradicable neurosis, love-hate, which can not be quenched. Assyrians are tied to the Babylon by such a knot of feelings that only some historical psychotherapist can brace it. If the kings of the Assyrian power simply turned Babylonia into one of their provinces, the matter would probably have been resolved more easily. But no! They did not want to master them with brute force.

Each time after the next "capture" Babylon was left the status of an independent vassal kingdom, and if not the kingdom, then at least a free

city. The Assyrians seemed to demonstrate their generosity to the Babylonians, asking: "Oh, the experienced children of Marduk, love us, the heroic sons of Ashur, live in harmony with us, and we will protect your magic city from any encroachment from the outside" ... Demanding this impossible love was among other things, insistence on recognizing kinship (ethnically Assyrians and Babylonians are even closer to each other than Russians and Ukrainians: they only spoke different dialects of the same language) and if not equality, then at least proportionality of the power of Assyria to the captivating beauty of Babylon. But "love" never happened.

And when Babylon once again rebelled, having called the allies of the Chaldeans and Elamites, the Assyrian king Sinaheribi in 689 BC. e. He erased Babylon from the face of the earth, pouring water from the open locks of the Euphrates down its streets. So a desperate lover kills his lover. But Assyria did not forgive her king the loss of Babylon. In turn, Sinaherib was killed in his own palace, and his successor, Esarhaddon, restored Babylon, restored to him former privileges, imposed new taxes in favor of the Babylonian temples — while at the same time, without knowing pity, he was hacked through a friendly once Egypt, until it brought the borders of the Assyrian state to the first threshold of the Nile.

Being close relatives by blood, the sons of Ashur were strikingly different from the sons of Babylon. If the Babylonians, with the exception of a small stratum of "God-fearing", were, in general, complete hedonists, the Assyrians preferred to the life pleasure of the Babylonians harsh amusements of a completely different kind: countless bas-reliefs depicted scenes of the royal lion’s and other hunts, where the muscles of each warrior are strained to the limit , blood is flowing, chariots rush, hunters are catching up with the victim ... The war, by the way, was one of their favorite subjects: battle, destruction of the city, humiliation of prisoners, pyramids from the beaten off defeated heads,

enemies turned slaves ... Limit tension forces, a feat the battle - that's ideal of life of the Assyrians. This affected the gender relations in society. If for the Babylonian the family was exactly that “mink” in which its vital hedonistic ideal was realized, then for the Assyrian everything was different. The family was only a “starting point” for the warrior, and although polygamy was allowed in Assyria, the harem served the sons of Ashur not for him, but to strengthen the forces and economy of the warrior. Attitude to a woman in Assyria was quite severe, and sexual relations are much more brutal and devoid of the tenderness that was painted love in Babylon.

Therefore, although Assyria and Babylon fed on the juices of the same culture, they disposed of them in different ways: some turned this juice into a pleasant wine, others made a fiery and blinding drink from it. An excellent illustration of this situation is the Epic of Gilgamesh. The work of this enjoyed extraordinary popularity both in Assyria and in Babylon. But the Assyrians rather saw their likeness in the young Gilgamesh, the king of Uruk, who was ready to perform feats solely in the name of feats and without discrimination to use the daughters and wives of his people. To become a "Babylonian", Gilgamesh had to overcome his egocentrism in a sense of ardent friendship, survive grief and mortal fear after the death of a friend, desire immortality, get it, to lose it and, out of foolish chance, lose and eventually abandon attempts to achieve the unattainable and - to live, enjoying life, not encroaching on that which is not given to man. For centuries, the Assyrians have been eager for the unattainable - not in words, but in deed, not to immortality, but to world dominion.

War for war

The sudden end of Assyria was preceded by an unprecedented scale of conquests and a maximum run of the Assyrian military machine. Iron made the Assyrian military army completely invincible on the battlefield.

While Assyrians - people from the root of Assyria were few, and they wanted to gain the whole world, they fought with exceptional cruelty. Therefore, some provinces and kingdoms preferred to express submission and pay tribute at the same approach of the Assyrian army, correctly believing that it would be better to formally lose independence than allow it to enter its territory. However, the Assyrian power has grown so much that the situation could not remain unchanged. The country had to be controlled and kept in obedience. This required a large army and the imperial administrative apparatus. The reformer in this area was Tiglatpalasar III.

He was a usurper, a military leader, so his main reforms concerned precisely military affairs. In Assyria, he created the "royal regiment" - a huge regular army, into which people who were subjugated and cut off from their midst and land and who knew no other will but the will of the tsar and the immediate commander, were taken. Under Tiglatpalasar III, there were 120 thousand people in the Assyrian army, and she did not know her rivals. It was not only its monstrous number. The Assyrians introduced a number of innovations into the military business, unknown to the ancient world and preserved until the modern times. For example, in addition to chariots, the shock force in battle made the mobile cavalry, creating cavalry as a branch of service. They established military intelligence and took care of the creation of auxiliary units needed in any campaign: army gunsmiths repaired and re-made weapons, engineering units helped the army build bridges and siege fortresses.

Assyrian siege technology reached such perfection that the fortress cities, which in previous centuries withstood sieges of 15–20 years, assyrians took for 20 days: they laid siege walls equal in height to the walls of the besieged fortresses, leaving the city without water, setting aside the rivers, or, on the contrary, flooded it, building or destroying dams. If this did not help either, they simply ground the fortress walls with their rams, which were moving mini-fortresses with turrets for

archers at the top and a wooden roof hiding a detachment of warriors who were swinging iron gigantic logs that could shake any masonry.

Assyrians waged war for war. Probably, in the whole world history there was no such belligerent state. Robbery of the conquered territories, tribute and taxes from the conquered lands became the engine of the entire Assyrian economy. In addition, the war gave inexhaustible sources of labor. At this time, the slaves in Assyria were so cheap that warriors sometimes paid them for lunch and drink in taverns.

In the VIII century BC Assyria finally cleared its way to the West, subjugating the Damascus and Israel kingdoms, made a number of successful campaigns in Urartu and Media, and once again “defeated” Babylon, where Tiglathpalasar III was even crowned with the Babylonian crown. To avoid rebellions and provinces falling away, he put into practice mass deportations of the population from one part of the empire to another. It is known that 73 thousand people were evicted from Syria alone.

For a century, Assyria did not know defeat. She crushed Israel, wiping it off the political map of the world, inflicted deadly wounds on Urartu, severed several provinces from Media, and quite successfully restrained the whirlwinds of the most dangerous opponents of all "established" civilizations — seemingly weak, but in reality possessing the colossal destructive power of nomadic - at that time Cimmerians and Arabs of the Arabian Peninsula. It seemed that nothing threatened the might of the Assyrian power.

Twilight

Stella with the image of Ashshurbanipal in the crown of the Assyrian kings. He picks up a basket of earth for the ritual making of the first brick. The cuneiform inscription around and on the king's body

indicates that he restored the sanctuary of Ea, the god of fresh water and wisdom, on the territory of the temple of Marduk - the supreme god of Babylon

Moreover, it is surprising that literally 100 years later Assyria no longer existed not only as a world empire, but simply as an independent state: its cities were wiped off the face of the earth and covered with sand. The end of Assyria, like any other empire, was sudden, although its approach was deafly felt by contemporaries. The prophets of Judea foretold the death of Nineveh, the "city of blood", the kings all with great difficulty fought against the enemies - and for the first time not for the spoil, but for the life of their own country. Never before has Assyria appealed to the gods with prayers and requests for signs with such trepidation and fear. King Ashshurbanipal made and equipped many campaigns, but the further, the more difficult the victories were given to him and the less durable they were - the uprising followed the uprising. The war seemed to have ceased to inspire the Assyrians, as before: a portrait of the great king, contrary to tradition, represents him not in a battle chariot, but in the image of a sacred builder — with a basket behind him — the restorer of the temple of Marduk in Babylon.

Following his grandfather and father, his capital, Ashshurbanipal, chose the ancient Assyrian city of Nineveh, where he founded an enterprise unprecedented for the ancient world - a library, commanding to copy and save in it all important cuneiform texts - from literary to medical recipes. This ancient library is sometimes called the "Babylonian". Even Borges - perhaps consciously - did not escape this error by imagining this primary library in the form of the Universe, which already contains all the signs and letters and, therefore, all the books that were and will be written. However, this proto-galaxy of bookishness was not created in Babylon, but in Nineveh. Ashshurbanipal himself was the Great Librarian, who knew perfectly the long-forgotten language of the Sumerians. During his reign, a palace was built in

Nineveh, able to compete with the most beautiful buildings of Babylon. In Babylon itself and in Uruk, the birthplace of the legendary Gilgamesh, luxurious temples were rebuilt.

Of course, Ashshurbanipal fought a lot. Assyria, which grew out of a small city-state, did not manage to make the conquered provinces partners in the construction of the empire. And it was precisely this circumstance that proved fatal. Another rebellion of Babylon, on the throne of which Brother Ashshurbanipal was sitting, shook the whole state. Egypt fell away. The results of the reforms once carried out by Tiglatpalasar III, which created a huge and invincible Assyrian army, immediately and immediately affected. Not knowing defeat over the course of a century, she began to lose her former strength. In the annals of VII century BC about military campaigns most often it is reported that the king of such and such "came and ravaged" the rebellious province or distant lands, but nowhere does it say that he "planted the governor".

This means that the campaigns of the Assyrians no longer brought them peace: the recalcitrant were, of course, ruined and pacified, but remained, essentially, beyond the control and waited only an hour for the next disobedience. The universe, created by the Assyrians' passionate explosion, began to rebel against Ashur. And when at the end of VII century BC on the historical scene, Scythians, who came from the depths of Asia, appeared. For decades Scythians quietly walked around the root of Assyria, not to mention the annexed kingdoms.

Speech against Assyria, the two largest of them - Media and Babylon - completed the picture of defeat. All the major Assyrian cities — Ashur, Nineveh, Harrasan, and Karchemish — were simply wiped out, the Assyrian nobility was exterminated, and the people of Assyria fled to neighboring lands, mixing with other nations. Part of the Assyrians fled to the west and even tried to establish a new kingdom there, but nothing could avert the death. The Babylonians finished off the Assyrians in 609

BC. The story of Assyria has come true.

The secret life of pirates

With Queen Elizabeth I and her successor, Jacob I, the attitude towards piracy was ambiguous. According to Claire Jowitt, a professor at the University of Nottingham (UK), they viewed English pirates as very useful subjects. If the latter robbed those who followed.

John Ward was one of the most famous English pirates of the Renaissance. For example, on April 26, 1607, he won an impressive victory, capturing with only four small and medium-sized ships a huge Venetian ship “Soderina” with a carrying capacity of 1,500 tons. It was believed that such sizes of ships should discourage pirates from attacking them - that is, sea bandits should pay attention to smaller and more accessible targets.

However, behind the gigantic dimensions of the Soderina and its cannons there was a dangerous understaffing of the ship’s crew. The fact is that shipowners in the pursuit of profit took on board as many passengers as possible. But the soldiers who could repel the attack of pirates, on the ship was nothing at all.

The shelling of "Soderina" from all pirate cannons lasted about three hours. At the same time, the high maneuverability of lighter predatory ships allowed them to evade response salvoes of heavy long-range guns of a Venetian ship.

Ward won in this fight, and his fearlessness became an example for the team - it turned even cowardly robbers into brave ones. The booty, which the pirates eventually captured, turned out to be extremely rich. Assistant Ward William Graves estimated its value at least two million

pounds.

Later, in May 1608, the two arrested members of the crew, Thomas Mitton and Walter Hancock, when they were interrogated in the court of the Admiralty, confirmed that after the capture of the Venetian, they received 83 pounds each. For those times it was a huge amount. It is easy to imagine how the reports of such a resounding success contributed to the growth of the fame of the English pirate.

At the beginning of the seventeenth century, Ward became a popular character in poems, ballads, and pamphlets. The play “The Christian who became a Turk” was written by Robert Deborn in 1612 about Ward. The people identified him with outlawed Robin Hood, who robbed the rich and distributed the loot to the poor. Some literary works frankly justified piracy.

SUBJECT OR GRIND?

In the end, King James I decided to take measures to curb the sea robbery. The monarch has repeatedly made declarations against piracy. In one of these declarations of January 8, 1609, the name Ward was explicitly mentioned.

Jacob I’s hostility toward Ward was in part caused by diplomatic complications associated with the latter’s attacks on foreign ships. As a result, the governments of those countries whose ships were plundered began to demand compensation. However, the king granted forgiveness to other pirates, such as Captain Henry Mainworing. But Ward was not allowed to be in England, despite the fact that he offered the king for his pardon an amazing amount - 40 thousand pounds sterling. Jacob refused to negotiate with Ward, considering himself offended by his inordinate arrogance.

The fact is that after the 18-year war with Spain, at the end of the reign of his predecessor Elizabeth I, the king sought to establish peace and safe trade in Europe. And Ward attacked the ships of all states indiscriminately. Gradually, Jacob came to the conclusion that, by executing Ward, he would prove his desire to eradicate piracy.

But at the same time, the king understood that people with the abilities of Ward could serve the state in good stead. During the years of tensions with Spain, which as a result led to war, Elizabeth I regularly used the services of pirates. After all, they could be attracted to participate in a certain kind of overseas expeditions.

WITH THE PERMISSION OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN

In 1582, the famous pirate Clinton Atkinson commanded the vessel Prosperity, which was part of a group of 11 British ships. This group was sent to sea to attack the ships of Spain. All ships had the letters of marque of Prior Kraut (Portugal) Antonio I, whom Elizabeth wanted to see on the throne of Portugal after her annexation by the Spanish king Philip II in 1580. Let us remind our readers that privateering is an attack of armed private ships against enemy merchant ships or ships of neutral countries permitted by the belligerent state. Privateering was prohibited by the Paris Declaration on the 1856 Naval War.

Naval officers - the subjects of Elizabeth - as well as high-ranking courtiers, were often involved in the implementation of projects in the field of trade, seizing booty and colonization, of which piracy was an integral part. During the reign of Elizabeth, the strategic use of piracy was officially recognized. The Queen even authorized the organization of expeditions, the purpose of which was supposedly called the development and expansion of trade routes, and in fact the sailors were supposed to attack foreign ships, especially Spanish.

WHO POSSIBLE ABOVE THE WORLD

However, during the first decades of the XVII century, the attitude of the state towards piracy changed. And to those who by their actions harmed trade operations and established business ties, began to apply harsh measures. Under Jacob I, England sought ways to create an empire by establishing peace and trade relations with European competitors. The bravery of the pirates and their ability to fight, of course, could be useful in the development of the country as a sea and colonial power - but only if the pirates attacked the "right" target.

After the pope issued a bull in 1493 about the division of spheres of influence in the Western Hemisphere between Spain and Portugal, England was deprived of the opportunity to develop new lands. She could only rob the ships in order to assert her rights to the overseas territories and to future profits from distant markets.

Elizabeth court, statesman, adventurer and poet Walter Raleigh, in his Discourses on the Invention of Ships, expressed a very accurate judgment on how important the mastery of the art of navigation is for the success of the English nation: "Those who rule the sea, rule in commerce, who rules in world trade, rules over the rich of the whole world and, consequently, over the world itself. "

RESPONSE RESPONSE TO PAWSKAYA BULLA

Piracy in the Renaissance can be viewed as England’s response to its exclusion from participation in profitable trade with regions belonging to Spain.

Pirates were not always a stumbling block in the international undertakings of England and, on occasion, could perform an important task in establishing the role of the state in the global economy. For

example, in the years 1570-1580 most of the British considered the pirate Francis Drake to be a hero. His successful attacks on Spanish ships served as a pretext for national celebrations. In Spain, he was considered a criminal who must be tried. In 1580, Drake, after his return from circumnavigation, Queen Elizabeth I knighted right on the upper deck of his ship Golden Hind (Golden Hind),

It is known that the Spanish ambassador estimated the services of Drake differently than the queen: "He was a skilled robber from an unknown world." As the Spanish poet and soldier Juan de Castellanos emphasized in his poem The Word about Captain Francis Drake, written in 1586-1587, Drake is cunning, shrewd, ambitious, and bloodthirsty. In addition, he robbed cathedrals and churches.

In the initial stage of the struggle to establish an empire, the interpretation of the concept of “piracy” often contradicted each other: for some, the pirate was a criminal, for others - a national hero. As mentioned above, in accordance with the papal bulla England lost the right to conduct profitable trade and the colonization of land in the New World. Thus, the nature of the British perception of the "marine activity" Drake was formed under the influence of feelings of confusion and indignation caused by the expulsion of England from the sphere of interests of Spain. The response was piracy.

PIRATE OR CAPER?

In the days of Drake and Ward, it was difficult to distinguish between apparent piracy and operations commissioned by the authorities. Participants of such operations were issued letters of marque. In fact, it was only in the 18th century that sea robbery received a specific definition and was outlawed. Piracy became easier to detect after the eligible and unauthorized use of force at sea was prescribed more clearly. During the Renaissance, the border separating legal and illegal actions

was unsteady and often violated, partly because, although the Legislative Act of 1536 proclaimed piracy as a criminal act of aggression, the concept of "privateer" appeared only in the middle of the XVII century.

Kachina - heavenly hopi teachers

Thousands of years ago, the Hopi ancestors lived on a continent washed by the Pacific Ocean. They called this continent Kasskar. But one day the lands of Kasskar split, and the ocean depths swallowed them up. Only the lands that lay at the very elevation remained; they became islands in the South Pacific. When the Kasskar continent disappeared into the ocean, the kachina, the “great and wisest”, appeared. Kachina were creatures endowed with flesh, their home was the planet Toonaoteka. Hopi claim that the "wisest" repeatedly visited our Earth at different times.

Kachina were different: educators, teachers and guardians of the law. Teachers were experts in various fields of science. An obstetrician, for example, assisted women in labor, an astronomer gave people knowledge of celestial mechanics, while a metallurgist taught earthlings to mine and process metals.

To this day, the Hopi make dolls depicting their alien mentors, the kachin. They need them, as the elders say, firstly so that people are not arrogant and arrogant. Secondly, people need to remember that Kachina will ever return ... Be sure to return.

Hopi claim that the dolls give a true idea of the appearance of the ancient Kachin. None of the dolls is like the other, because each Kachina was unique and possessed only one inherent strength and ability.

The dolls are painted with different colors and symbols, dressed in

original helmets with antenna-like rods - this is how real Kachina looked like thousands of years ago, teachers from a distant planet Toonaote. These elements hint at the connection with the cosmos. In addition, ancient cave paintings depict cuchin cups and spherical devices, their “flying shields”, on which they hovered above the ground, water and clouds, and which could bring kachina to their home planet.

In the Hopi reservation in Arizona, near the village of Oraibi, there is a stone basin, to which ordinary visitors are not allowed. All its walls are dotted with thousands and thousands of rock paintings. This “art gallery” reflects the history of the Hopi tribe, and this history clearly does not coincide with the generally accepted modern theories.

FORCED RESETTLEMENT

The Indians say that the Kachina were rescued by the Hopi ancestors: in several visits, they took them out on "flying shields" from dying Atlantis and landed on the shores of South America. The legends say that the “flying shields” resembled halves of pumpkins.

The arrival of the Hopi in South America marked the beginning of a new era in the history of this people. The Indians multiplied their race; the primordial community was divided into many tribes. Some of them over the past millennia moved to the North American continent. Other tribes went to the highlands of South America and settled in the middle American forests.

The ancient capital of which every Hopi remembers was the city of Palatkuapi (today this city is called Palenque). For centuries, the Hopis lived peacefully and happily in Palatkuapi, until overpopulation forced them to withdraw from their homes and go to the development of remote mountain lands. Over time, their relationship with the capital increasingly weakened. Kachina also left Palchukuapi and flew home.

The stated history of the Hopi Indians contradicts the traditional scientific theories according to which South America was settled from north to south. But the generally accepted theory of settlement may be erroneous, and some recent archaeological finds, such as the Mayan culture researcher Norman Hammond, prove this. In Yucatan, he found pottery, dating from 2,600 BC, which somehow confirms - the territory of the Mexican peninsula was settled at least one and a half thousand years earlier than is commonly believed.

In the manner of execution of dolls and petroglyphs of the Hopi, certain coincidences can be found with the motifs of the weaving art of the pre-Inca tribes. The neighborhood of the modern Peruvian town of Paracas, two thousand years ago, was inhabited by people who became famous for their diverse bright homespun products. On their shawls and carpets are depicted the same couchins. In the foundations of the Paracas culture burials, the departed are wrapped in cloth decorated with geometric patterns and stylized figures. The motifs of the images on these tissues go back to the history of the Hopi, who today live several thousand kilometers to the north.

TEACHER'S HOLIDAY

A striking consonance to the legends of Hopi, researchers have discovered in the mythology of the Kayapo Indians living in the upper reaches of the Amazon. Each year, this tribe celebrates a special holiday dedicated to their heavenly teacher. To this date, men and women of the tribe weave the garb of their teacher. This is a closed suit with no holes for eyes, mouth and nose. That is, according to Kayapo, their celestial teacher named Bep-Cororothi looked like.

Once in the mountains, say the Indians, there was a deafening roar, and Bep-Cororothy came down from heaven. He was dressed in a ritual

robe that covered him from head to toe, and in his hand he held a cop, a weapon struck by lightning. In horror, the villagers fled into the forest. The men tried to protect women and children, and some even intended to fight an uninvited guest. But their spears and arrows, barely touching the clothes of Bep-Cororot, immediately broke.

A creature from the depths of the universe must have extinguished the weakness of human weapons. To demonstrate his strength, Bep-Cororotti sent a "cop" first to the tree, and then to the stone and destroyed them in an instant. Into the ranks of the Indians came confusion. In the end, even the most courageous warriors of the tribe had to put up with Bep-Cororothy. Since he surpassed all those living on Earth with wisdom, people gradually gained trust in him. He organized the construction of the "house of men" (now these are being built in all the villages of the Kayapo). In fact, this house was a school, and the teacher in it was a heavenly teacher.

During the hunt, Bep-Cororothy killed the animals without hurting them, and gave all the prey to the Kayapo, since he did not need any food. One day, Bep-Cororotti disappeared for no reason at all, and then also suddenly appeared again. At the same time, he made a terrible noise, shouting that he had lost one of his belongings. The Indians could not understand what they should look for. Desperate to find the lost, the cosmic stranger said goodbye to the Indians, but several warriors followed him and traced his path to the very mountain range. What they discovered, they were horrified.

With the help of his weapon, Bep-Cororothy cut a wide clearing in the forest. Then came a roar from the sky, shaking everything around. Something similar to a house fell on the ground, and Bep-Cororothy disappeared into it. The heavens blazed with fire, a giant cloud of smoke enveloped the earth, an eerie thunder rumbled. The beginning of the earthquake pulled out the bushes and trees with roots. Wild beasts

scattered in fear, having left their native places for a long time.

MEMORY MEDIA

Myths about kachina affect the entire worldview of the Hopi tribe, their life and religion. Kachina is associated with the most ancient knowledge about the origin of the tribe, with its travels and life in Palatkuapi. Since Hopi doesn’t have written language, elderly people with a strong passion are unparalleled in their culture. “All the knowledge that had significance for the tribe was impressed in their memory during the absence of writing, because there was no better way to preserve knowledge and pass it on. The death of one of these old men was like a fire in the national library — a lot of knowledge was lost forever. ” The same goes for dancing. The ritual meaning makes dance a carrier of a special character’s memory, as it passes from generation to generation its main idea. Learn to dance, repeating for the mentor. In Hopi, learning to dance became a ritual, a sacred sacrament.

A hundred years ago, the ethnologist J.V. Fjukis wrote a treatise on the striking Hopi ceremonies. In particular, he described the serpent dance, perhaps the most famous Hopi rite. Most of it is conducted by the serpent priests, but they share the secret of the ritual with the antelope priests who "assist" them. During the festival, the mythical appearance of the Hopi in this world is remembered, and “a connection with an extraterrestrial spirit” is established. Dances have an initially predetermined rhythm and consist of many figures.

Virtually all ancient religions testify to teachers who came from the depths of the universe and who taught people a lot. The rulers of the Incas called themselves sons of the sun. They, like the pharaohs of ancient Egypt, believed in their origin from the gods from space.

The Mayans, Toltecs and Asteks, creating their stone idols, necessarily “handed” to them certain symbols of power, similar to the “cop” weapon. The same "thunderous" and heavenly beings were the gods of the ancient Greeks and Indians. Too many coincidences are found in the myths and legends of peoples living in various parts of the world, and South America still harbors many mysteries.

Megalithic Sanctum of Malta

In the very center of the Mediterranean, right under the Italian “boot”, which stretches toe to the island of Sicily, and cannot reach for several million years, is the Maltese Archipelago - the birthplace of the seductive nymph Calypso, the refuge of the Apostle Paul, the former possession of the legendary Order of the Knights hospitallers.

This archipelago - a fragment of hilly land without rivers, lakes and forests - has long become a cultural and historical sensation. The most ancient temples in the world were discovered here - traces of one of the most mysterious civilizations in the history of mankind.

Today, before each visitor, leaving the building of the international airport in Malta, appears quite developed and drained landscape. But 7,000 years ago, when the first wave of immigrants overcame the 80 kilometers that separated Malta from Sicily, it was virgin land covered with lush vegetation.

Fearless discoverers who landed around 5200 BC on the islands of the Maltese archipelago, they brought with them cattle, sheep, goats and pigs (this suggests that their boats or rafts were of considerable size and carrying capacity). They also brought wheat and barley seeds with them to sow them in a new land, where they and their descendants could begin a new cycle of creation.

What kind of people were these? There is no answer to this question yet. Unknown their anthropological type. The ancestral homeland is not clear, not to mention the language ... One thing is clear: today's Maltese have nothing in common with them.

The ancient history of the islands of Malta and Gozo is literally written in stone. Although at that time copper was already widely used throughout the Mediterranean (this marked the beginning of a new era — the copper age, which came immediately after the Neolithic), the inhabitants of the copper islands did not know and did not use it (there is even a hypothesis that they did not use metals for religious considerations). So their culture was still, strictly speaking, Neolithic.

However, these people were not isolated from the rest of the world! On the contrary, they had extensive trade relations. Since their islands are made entirely of limestone, they are in dire need of hard stone, from which they made their tools. Flint was delivered to Malta from Sicily, black volcanic glass (obsidian) from the islands of Lipari and Pantelleria, and the highly valued diorite axes were brought from Italy, hundreds of kilometers to the north.

With these stone tools, the inhabitants of ancient Malta created a real miracle - huge megalithic temples, surpassing everything that was built in Europe before that time, and possibly in the whole world then. More than 5,500 years ago, a thousand years before the pyramid of Cheops, the local islanders were able to build and erected colossal buildings that are striking in their size so far. These temples, at first glance, seem to have been erected in a “wrong” place — away from the historic history roads, away from the Nile Valley and Mesopotamia, and at the “wrong” time - in the prehistoric past, when people were supposed to be too primitive. to build such wonders. Therefore, archaeologists have long assumed that these Maltese temples are relatively late, and

their builders borrowed ideas and methods from some more "advanced" cultural centers such as the Apennine Peninsula or Greece.

But when the radiocarbon method showed the true age of Maltese temples, it became clear that the most ancient complex of monumental stone architecture in the world was created not in ancient Egypt or Mesopotamia, but in Malta. This fact overthrew many previous ideas about the development of human civilization. And the period in which the megalithic temples of Malta were built (mid-IV - the end of the 3rd millennium BC), received in the history of the island the name of the “era of the temple builders”.

Total in Malta and Gozo today found the remains of 23 temples. All of them are built of local limestone, or rather, of its two varieties: relatively hard coral limestone and softer, globigerin. Over the past centuries, Maltese peasants, who needed stone for their own purposes, demolished ancient temples for building material, so today most of the buildings are piles of ruins: randomly scattered blocks of stone, destroyed remains of walls and fences ... But even these ruins are impressive and make you think about the hard work and perseverance of the prehistoric builders who built these magnificent monuments to their unknown gods.

Only four temples have reached our time relatively intact - Ggantiya, Hagar Quim, Mnajdra and Tarschen. The oldest of them, Ggantia (its name means “Tower of the Giant”), is located in the center of Gozo Island. It was built around 3600 BC. - for five centuries before the 1st Pharaoh dynasty reigned in Egypt. According to local legend, the Ggantia temple was built by a giant race of people who once lived on the island. According to one version of this legend, the colossal boulders from which the temple was erected were worn by a female giant with a baby behind her back. She fed on magical beans, which increased her already exorbitant strength.

The complex Ggantiya is, in fact, not one temple, but two built side by side. The larger one is earlier. This temple, which occupies the southern part of the sacred site, faces to the southeast, just like most of the later megalithic temples in Malta. Even today, the surviving left side of the facade reaches 6 m in height, but everyone understands that the temple was originally even higher.

The large temple of Dzhgantia was built with partial use of the cyclopean style of stonework - huge stones are held only by their own weight. In front of the temple there is a semicircular open area where people who came to the temple gathered. There are vertically standing stones with holes, which are believed to be tied up with sacrificial animals, waiting for the priests to enter them into the sanctuary to lay on the altars. To the left of the entrance is a stone slab with a recess carved into it. In former times, it was apparently filled with water, and those entering the holy of holies first washed their feet here.

The entrance to the sanctuary is framed by large vertical stones (orthostatics). Apparently, there were no doors here, but the last pair of orthostatists has openings into which transverse wooden bars were inserted. They were probably hung with a curtain of leather or fabric, fencing off the sanctuary from the outside world.

The plan of the sanctuary looks like “trikonkh” - a trefoil, and consists of five semi-circular apses, each of which can be accessed from the corridor, which stretches from the entrance to the back of the temple. Two apses are located on each side of this passage and one at the end. In the first of the apses on the left, there are traces of red plaster, which once decorated the interior of the sanctuary.

A pair of internal apses is larger than the external: each of them has a length of 23.5 m. In the left apse one can see an altar that survived

almost in its original form (in order to strengthen it, the altar had to be partially restored). The niches where the statues of forgotten ancient deities stood now are empty. And on the floor within the whole complex there are a lot of grooves - the so-called openings for libations. These holes served as receptacles for the blood of sacrificial animals.

The most striking feature of Dzhgantia is the fence that surrounds the site on which both temples stand. Looking at this wall, one will surely believe that the sanctuary was built by giants. Some willows of stones, vertically standing in the fence, reach 5.5 m in length and weigh 50 tons! It seems incredible that a “primitive” community of people, in essence, living in the Stone Age, could establish megaliths of such magnitude. For example: when restoration work was carried out in the Mnaidra temple a few years ago, a crane was required to move some of these stones. How did prehistoric engineers manage with such swords?

Hagar Kvim - the largest temple complex. This is explained by the fact that during the existence of the temple, it has repeatedly expanded, "expanding" at the expense of additional structures and extensions. Hagar Quim is also the best preserved of the temples of Malta. Here we find many of the same basic architectural features that we know from Dzhgantia. The stone-walled courtyard in front of the entrance to the sanctuary is spacious enough for several hundred people to gather on it. Small, now dilapidated stone buildings that are part of the complex, with the same success could be the dwellings of priests and harnesses for the maintenance of sacrificial animals. Stone altars, sacrificial niches, orthostatics with openings for beams, openings for libations and stones to which cattle were tied - all indicate that ceremonies were held here similar to those that took place in Dzhgantia.

The temple complex Tarchyen, even more complex than Hagar Quim, is the pinnacle of the Maltese Stone Age architects. These are actually three temples in one. Although Tarchien has survived to this day

far worse than Ggantiya and Hagar Quim, its ruins still make an impressive impression.

Before anyone who enters the third, the last of the temples of Tarschien, an apse grows, in which the lower part of the colossal statue of the goddess is preserved. Its original is now kept in the National Museum in the capital of Malta, La Valletta, and its exact replica is installed in the temple. The surviving part of the statue consists of the lower part of the pleated skirt, from under which the bare feet of the goddess are visible. The whole statue, according to the researchers, reached about 2.7 m in height.

Next to this colossus is a stone altar, whimsically decorated with spiral ornaments. In front of the altar below there is a hole, which was tightly clogged with stone. When archaeologists cleared it, they found numerous bones and horns of animals and a flint knife for sacrifices - the latter were an important element in the religion of the people of the temple builders. Other artifacts make it possible to judge the remarkable art of these prehistoric masons. Thus, in one of the apses of Tarschien a stone bowl was preserved, reaching 1 m in height and 1 m in width. It was cut from a single block of stone. Numerous altars, images of animals and spirals carved in stone, remnants of altars - all point to the complex complex religious beliefs of the ancient Maltese.

Researchers have long paid attention to a number of features of the Maltese megalithic temples. There is no doubt that their builders very carefully chose a place to lay the future temple. Moreover, their choice was based not only on practical considerations. They perceived architecture as a part of nature, not antagonistic to it. It seems that the temple builders had a deep inner, instinctive sense of place. They were probably sure that they perceive the "subtle energies of the earth." The closest analogy to this is the "Feng Shui" system of ancient Chinese geomancy, which attaches great importance to the orientation of

buildings and even rooms and furniture in them, so that they are consistent with the "energies of the earth." Even today, many public buildings in Hong Kong are built according to the principles of "feng shui".

The temple builders of Malta not only carefully entered their cyclopean structures into the surrounding landscape, but also “tied” them to the skies. Thus, according to some studies, the temple Mnaidra is directly connected with the days of the summer and winter solstices and the summer and winter equinoxes. On the days of the solstices, the rays of the sun fall directly on the main altar of the sanctuary.

Like many other ancient cultures, the prehistoric inhabitants of Malta made a clear distinction between their own dwellings and temples - the abodes of the gods. Constructing temples for the gods, they built them for eternity, while they, just like the ancient Egyptians, built their houses from short-lived materials. And the temple builders of Malta created the most magnificent and mysterious buildings not on the ground, but deep underground. In the thick limestone cliffs, they cut down long spiral corridors, intricate passages and huge artificial caves designed to serve as the abode of the dead...

Of the underground structures in Malta, the most famous is the magnificent hypogeum (the term “hypogium” is usually described as any underground structure carved into the rock) of Hal Safeni, located near the temple of Tarschen. In 1902, it was accidentally discovered by workers who built a mine for a water tank. They quickly realized that they were in front of a very ancient structure, but did not immediately report their discovery to the authorities, and for some time used an artificial cave as a construction waste dump. However, the secret could not be preserved for a long time, and soon archaeologists began to research the hypogea.

The Khal-Safleni Hypogeum is a kind of “mirror reflection” of megalithic temples located on the surface, tilted down to the center of the earth. Here, too, there is the main hall and the “holy of holies”, where everything is arranged exactly the same as above, up to the openings for libations. However, it was not a temple, but a real “house of the dead”: apparently, a communal burial ground functioned here for many centuries. As it grew, builders cut down more and more new corridors and grottoes in which the ancient inhabitants of Malta buried their dead. As a result, the total area of underground structures amounted to 480 square meters. According to scientists' calculations, the remains of 6-7 thousand people were buried here in prehistoric times.

The winding tunnels and halls are arranged in three tiers, leaving deep underground. With incredible patience, the creators of the hypogeum cut down and lifted countless tons of stone to the surface. Using only simple hand tools and picks made of stone, horns and bones, they achieved the impossible. Ancient masters well studied the properties of the rock. They skillfully used the natural cracks in the stone. Having found them, they methodically deepened and widened the crack, until whole sections of the rock collapsed. Then the surface is neatly aligned.

The Hypogeum is the best example of the inclination of the temple builders of Malta to curved lines. The floors here smoothly flow into the walls, which, in turn, also smoothly go to the ceiling. In fact, the whole complex looks like a huge intricate spiral. Here and there, on the walls, there are still faint traces of painting with red ocher. One of these "painted" halls, called the "Oracle Hall", apparently served for some special ceremonies. Already distinguished by a good resonance, this hall is additionally “enhanced” by a special resonator niche carved into the rock. The sound of a human voice spreads from here almost throughout the hypogeum, accompanied by a strange echo.

In the guise of Maltese temples there is nothing accidental. They

were built for almost a thousand years, but everywhere we see the same architectural features and symbols, repeating again and again - even in underground halls, and this suggests that throughout the lifetime of this mysterious civilization, the picture of the world among the ancients the inhabitants of Malta remained unchanged. Each of the churches is clearly divided into external and internal zones: the first was intended for ordinary parishioners, and the second was the "holy of holies", where outsider access was restricted. Here, in the sanctuary, the priests, in accordance with known rituals only, offered sacrifices to the gods and goddesses, whom the people of the temple builders worshiped. Judging by all signs, this people had a consistent and well-organized system of religious outlook. There is a hypothesis that the entire Maltese archipelago in the era of the temple builders was a kind of common Mediterranean sacral center, the abode of the Great Goddess and her priestesses.

Although the Maltese temples were primarily houses of prayers and sacrifices, this probably did not exhaust their functions. They may also have been administrative centers, markets, and even hospitals. They were the main centers of community life, both spiritual and economic. And without doubt, the priesthood of these temples played an important role in the life of the ancient Maltese. It is possible that, as in other early agricultural civilizations, the whole society of temple builders was divided into priesthood and ordinary community members. In any case, there were no military leaders here, and in general the civilization of Ancient Malta was surprisingly peaceful: archaeologists still have not found any weapons or traces of military clashes dating back to the era of temple builders. At the same time, the construction of enormous structures required a certain social organization, and this testifies to the fact that the ancient Maltese had a relatively developed and orderly system of social relations.

The end of the epoch of the temple builders has a fairly accurate

date - 2300 BC. Civilization, which created brilliant cultural monuments, disappears suddenly and inexplicably. In our time, many theories have been put forward that explain this riddle, but none of them can be considered quite convincing. Archaeologists have not found any solid evidence that the civilization of the temple builders died as a result of a natural disaster. Studies of numerous human skeletons found on the islands have shown the absence of any signs of an epidemic. The hypothesis that peaceful Maltese farmers fell victim to the militant neighbors who landed on the islands was not confirmed either: new settlers who appeared in Malta at the end of the Bronze Age found here already empty and abandoned buildings.

We do not know where the temple builders went. Nowhere on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea there are no obvious traces of their stay, even a short one. But these people, judging by the buildings they left in Malta, had remarkable construction skills! Why, having left the islands, they didn’t show themselves anywhere else?

But, regardless of their further fate, these people left eternal monuments of their presence in the Maltese archipelago. Their achievements remind us that much earlier than the vanity of the pharaohs forced the Egyptians to build pyramids, the pre-Indo-European inhabitants of Europe had already erected monumental stone buildings that were not as powerful as the pyramids, and even more difficult than them.

Temple Abu Simbel

The rock temple of Pharaoh Ramses II was built around 1260 BC. e. to commemorate his victory over the Hittites at the Battle of Kadesh

Not far from the Egyptian-Sudanese border is Lake Nasser, a giant

reservoir created by the Aswan Dam. Back in the late 50s, when the dam was only designed, it became clear that the water would flood the Nile floodplain for about 500 kilometers.

These places were inhabited poorly, and the fate of 45 poor Nubian villages, scattered across the future bottom of the artificial lake, was quickly resolved. For residents were built new comfortable villages. It turned out to be much more difficult to save historical monuments. The most prominent of them are the temples of Pharaoh Ramses II and his royal wife, Nefertari, carved into the rocks on the west bank of the Nile (280 km south of Aswan, near the village of Abu Simbel).

The rock temple of Pharaoh Ramses II was built around 1260 BC. e. to commemorate his victory over the Hittites at the Battle of Kadesh. The facade of the temple is decorated with four twenty-meter stone statues of the pharaoh; he sits, arms folded in his lap. The gaze of the pharaoh is directed to the east, towards the sun, because its name means "born of the god Ra". At his feet are small sculptures of members of his numerous families: his wife Nefertari, his mother and several children, of whom he had more than 200 in all. The facade of the Great Temple is 31 meters tall.

The temple consists of four successively decreasing rectangular halls with ancillary side rooms. Everyone was admitted to the first hall, to the nobles to the second, to the priests to the third. In the last, Small Hall, could only enter the Pharaoh with the approximate.

A narrow door leads to a darkened hall with columns. In the depths of it, 55 meters opposite the entrance, there is a door to the sanctuary - a low, dark room. There along the back wall are carved a row of four sculptures the size of human growth - the statue of Ramses II himself and the gods Ra, Amon and Pt. Sitting figures of gods are depicted in crowns twined with ureyas (sacred cobras). There are hieroglyphs on the

walls of the temple - a chronicle of the military campaign to Syria, which the great Pharaoh undertook in the fifth year of his reign, including the story of the famous battle of Kadesh.

In fact, as historians believe, in the two-day battle of the Egyptians with the Hittites, only the personal courage of Pharaoh and the suitable reinforcement saved from the destruction of the former. Kadesh was not taken, and as a result, both sides concluded a truce, after which Ramses II retreated to Egypt.

According to legends, he lived to be 90 years old, of which 67 was the invariable ruler of the largest state at that time. Contrary to countless legends, the life of Pharaoh was not only an endless chain of wars of conquest. His contribution to the development of art and architecture of ancient Egypt is enormous. Under Ramses II, construction is under way in the temples of Amon at Thebes and Osiris at Abydos; A grandiose funeral complex Ramessesum is being built on the west bank of the Nile opposite Thebes. In Nubia, which was firmly subordinate to Egypt under Ramses II, temples were erected in his honor. The most famous among them is the rock temple in Abu Simbel, which is not only a historical and architectural monument, but also a unique engineering structure.

Every year, on October 20, on the day of his birth, and on February 21, on the anniversary of his accession to the throne, the great Pharaoh Ramses II was to appear to the people in the temple. At this time, one of the solemn ceremonies took place: night worship in the pillared hall barely lit by rare lamps.

Priests in white clothes. Kneeling people. Smoke burners. Solemn chants. And when all those present, wound up to the limit by a long, tense waiting for a miracle, hear the high priest uttering the sacred formula, conjuring the sun to appear in darkness, suddenly something incredible happens: exactly at 6 o'clock in the morning, as if actually

obeying the priest's spell, sunny the beam penetrates the entrance portal and illuminates a 65-meter-long tunnel leading to the iconic niche of the Small Hall. The beam, without touching the statue of the god Ptah, lingers for 6 minutes on Amon and Ra, 12 minutes - on the statue of Pharaoh, while brightly highlighting the figure of Ramses himself in the depths of the sanctuary, and his eyes, inlaid with rubies, flare with an unkind brilliance.

The Egyptian government, wishing to save the masterpieces of the distant past, appealed to UNESCO and other international organizations to save the churches in the flooded area. There were many offers, but the most expedient decision was to cut the temples of Abu Simbel into pieces and assemble them at a new place 200 meters from the old one, on a 60-meter cliff.

Now it is impossible to even consider the junction of blocks. The inevitable consequence of the movement of the temple was a shift in the time of the penetration of the sun’s rays into the sanctuary. Previously, the face of Ramses was illuminated by the rays of the rising sun on February 21 and October 20, but after moving the temple to a new place and changing the height of the location, direct sunlight penetrated inside the temple a day ahead. True, this does not interfere with the annual mass celebration - the ritual of the sun rising to the face of Ramses II: the sounds of folk instruments and drumming do not cease all night, foreshadowing the day when the legendary ruler of Ancient Egypt was born thousands of years ago.

Tutankhamen from Sipan

Several years ago, in the Peruvian town of Sipan, during the arrest of “Wiqueros” (as the local language is called robbers specializing in ancient burial grounds), police confiscated pre-Columbian gold and

ceramic items. An expert, director of the Archaeological Museum of the city of Lambayeque, Walter Alva, was urgently called in for a consultation. Upon arrival, the scientist realized that the police had managed to stumble upon the most significant archaeological find in Peru during all his professional activities.

In the grave lay the coffin of the "ruler of Sipan." At the feet and at the head of the head were the bodies of two young women — wives or concubines; on the sides — two men, perhaps faithful servants, and the skeleton of a dog

The work of Latin American archaeologists in the town of Sipan, led by Walter Alva, was a great success. At a depth of four meters, researchers uncovered the burial of the priest or leader of the ancient state of the Moika Indians. As a result, 663 items were in their hands, among which were highly artistic golden figures of warriors and gods, silver and copper products, and artfully made jewelery made of precious metals, turquoise and lapis lazuli. Following the grave of the "ruler of Sipan", as experts christened it, the scientists found the second and third graves. Thus, the Mochic civilization, which flourished in the coastal valleys of northern Peru in the middle of the first millennium of our era, presented another surprise of modern archeology. By scientific and cultural significance, by the number of relics found in Sipan, this sensational find can be put on a par with the world-famous tomb of the Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamen discovered in 1922.

Together with a group of archaeologists, Walter Alva began a systematic excavation of a ritual platform with a height of more than ten meters, located in front of two higher pyramids built of adobe, a brick of clay and straw dried in the sun.

While clearing the blockage left by the robbers who had been here, Alva discovered a copper rod and several pottery. But archaeologists

made their main discovery at a depth of four meters - it was the skeleton of a young man in a gilded copper helmet and with a shield, most likely a guard. Both of his legs were cut off, possibly so that after death he would not leave his post. Even lower lay the coffin of the warrior-priest, or "the ruler of Sipan." The bodies of two young women — wives or concubines — were placed at the feet and at the head, on the sides — two men, perhaps faithful servants, and the skeleton of a dog. Below, under the burial, found the remains of two sacrificed lamas.

From the wealth and beauty of the products that made up the decoration of the “ruler from Sipan”, the archeologists took breath away. Gems and gold ornaments, made with exceptional craftsmanship, were strewn from head to foot. The breastplates are covered with thousands of gems. The head is crowned with gilded brass, the hands are bracelets of turquoise and gold beads, and the cape thrown over the back is made of two pounds of pure gold (the deceased was clearly a man of very high social status). His ears were decorated with two earrings of gold and turquoise, in each of which a warrior figurine is inserted. These ear ornaments, according to the participants of the excavation, should be ranked among the most outstanding jewels ever made in the New World.

The figure, in turn, has a crescent-shaped headdress and a necklace of owl heads. In tiny handles - fighting maces. Work on the metal is so thin that even the muscles on the legs are depicted.

Among other things, the finds showed that the Mochic people were engaged in extensive trade. About a thousand vases, cups and figures are decorated with lapis lazuli from Chile, turquoise from Argentina and shells from Ecuador.

DEVELOPED CIVILIZATION

The first information about the ancient state of Moika became

known in the middle of the XVIII century, thanks to the activities of the Spanish king Charles III. He, whose empire became rich as a result of the destruction of the Indians, was one of the first to understand that the native inhabitants of America had created cultures that deserved keen interest before the arrival of the Europeans. Moreover, Karl decided to publish a great encyclopedia about Native American America and its states, the so-called "Antiquity History of the New World".

The king sent scientists to America who were tasked to track down lost cities and other material traces of Indian states. On his initiative, the first discoveries of the culture of mochic and chimu were collected and sent to the museum. They were sent to Spain by the viceroy of Peru. Among other things, in the boxes were gold jewelry, a fan of expensive bird feathers, a wooden staff decorated with magnificent carvings, and most importantly, the remains of an unknown Mochiko ruler. The body of the ancient Tsar, despite the fact that several centuries have passed since his death, has been preserved quite well.

The remains were overlaid with magnificent ceramics, which depicted figures of noble urchites. The gift arrived in Madrid in June 1771, and the Spanish king placed the remains of his Indian "colleagues" in a museum.

The people of the valley of the River Moche in the first millennium of our era, unlike their Mexican contemporaries, the Maya, did not have written language and a calendar, but, nevertheless, it was a highly developed civilization.

Mochika had extensive knowledge of mathematics and astronomy. This knowledge enabled them to build a system of irrigation canals, with which they, despite the arid climate, collected rich harvests. One such channel, which diverted water from the Chikama River, is 113 kilometers long. Another - 3 meters wide and 2 meters deep - stretched 145

kilometers! In the Viru valley was built aqueduct, reaching a height of 15 meters.

Indians grew corn, potatoes, sweet potatoes, sweet manioc, pumpkin, pepper, cinnamon, pineapple, beans. They knew cocoa beans, peanuts, and cucumbers. All of these plants found a display on the Uric ceramics. It also had turkeys, ducks, guinea pigs, crabs, and even sea lions — the Indians had an extensive diet. Ceramics depict pictures of deer and pumas hunting - mountain lions, fishing scenes are reproduced very accurately. On one of the vessels the work of the ancient Peruvian weaving workshop is described in detail. In a row of machine tools, women sit and weave, looking at the drawings hanging on the wall.

Ceramic vessels made by Moray potters who did not know the pottery wheel are of particular value. They sculpted their vessels in the same way as statuettes were molded. Many pots are portrait images, and some indicate that not all Indians had pronounced facial features. Some cut eyes and cheekbones resemble the Chinese, while others have Negroid features. This indicates a significant racial heterogeneity of the inhabitants of the state.

Most of the ceramic vessels found on that expedition date from the 1st to the 8th centuries. AD, and in the VIII century the state created in the valley of the Moche fell into decay. True, the descendants of the Moika live on this territory to this day. They have kept their language, customs and way of life. And, perhaps, will present new discoveries to the world.

Stonehenge. Alternative views

Most of the English Salsbury Plain is known due to the presence on it of an ancient stone monument of Stonehenge. But the fact that these

stone ruins are also a place of accumulation of unidentified flying objects, very few people know. In August 1957, a training battle took place on this plain between the London garrison and the royal guard from Liverpool. The exercise was planned that the defending side (the London garrison) was equipped with five Centurion tanks.

Tanks performed a protective role, which consisted in firing the center of the terrain while maneuvering. While preparing tanks for a combat mission from one vehicle, a message was received that the crew saw a large silver cigar-shaped object and that the tank was ready to open fire on it.

After this message about the tank, nothing was heard, it was not possible to detect his tracks. He disappeared...

Strange events take place in Stonehenge. So, one fan, launching a kite, climbed onto the roof of his car in the parking lot. Everything went well, the serpent rose higher and higher. And suddenly, when the snake hung over cromlech stones, and 150-200 yards from the parking lot, it is not clear where the impulse of energy of unknown origin from which burned his hands. The man lost consciousness and fell from the car. Burns were only six months later. Or even more fantastic phenomenon. One day, a group of people heard a strange crackling sound coming from the stones, and ran away, and that sound rose to the sky with a buzzing sound. At the same time, there appeared something resembling a giant fiery wheel, which, rotating, went up. Later, sitting at home and resting, these people saw how the female figure materialized, dressed in yellow, materialized. She had long hair and a hairstyle similar to ancient Egyptian. People had the impression that that night they witnessed the struggle between good and evil.

According to one Czech artist, the creation of Stonehenge used the levitation of stone blocks, which was caused by the power of sound and

thought.

The main element of the new discoveries is the connection between the ancient lines of force of these places and the UFO discovered by Tony Veddom. Cromlech plan when viewed from the air like a UFO. The ring embankments and moats are the outer rim of a UFO, the Aubrey holes are portholes, the inner stone circle (sersen ring) is a cabin. The central stone is a protruding wheelhouse, the so-called blue humanoid stones. Located at a distance "Kursus" clearly depicts the ship-uterus.

The unremarkable small town of Vaminster, located between Stonehenge and Glastonbury, is the center of the garrison. He is surrounded by military installations. Maybe that's why he is often watched by a UFO? Generally speaking, the relationship between UFOs and the military is interpreted in two ways. From a positive point of view: aliens see a threat to human existence from military nuclear installations and are watching us. Another weird alternative is that the military and aliens, if they are not in close cooperation with each other; they may have chosen a strategy to hide the truth. At least, they decided not to give their secrets to the people of Earth.

Note that Stonehenge, although it is in civilian hands), belongs to the royal family), but it is surrounded on all sides by closed military zones. Glastonbury is still left alone. Above Wainster, UFOs more often go from east to west along the "air line" from Stonehenge to Glastonbury. There were UFO landings, giants' observations, traces and sounds of "invisible pedestrians" and exotic perfume smells left after UFO take-off. This phenomenon is not new. Even in the records of John Aubrey from 1670 found mention of a strange ghost, seen near Sprinchester. To the question: are you a good or bad spirit? - there was no answer from the ghost, but the creature disappeared, leaving an unusual smell and a very melodic ringing.

In 1954, many years before the advent of alternative archeology, one photographer discovered in his photographs a pillar of light. He was like a spotlight, beating into the cloudy February sky from the very central Trilith.

There are at least two explicit UFO sightings very recently. In 1968, Arthur Shattlevud saw a UFO near the exit of the fiery circle that arose directly from the stones of Stonehenge. When the observer decided to be curious and come closer, the UFO went up. One October evening in 1977, it was obvious that flaming lights had come out of cromlech. They moved across the sky in order, could hang and instantly change direction. They did this not in a smooth, as in an airplane, movements, but in a sharp and unexpected way. They could change the order, one suddenly disappeared (dematerialized) or went to the side with tremendous speed. Compasses incorrectly showed the direction, and on a portable TV the image became unstable. The lights were able to shoot a camera.

It is not surprising that the military showed interest. The spotlight was clearly priced on a UFO. But at some distance from the object, he disappeared into the void, as if detached by some elusive force. Other researchers, such as Anthony Roberts, found in the folklore and traditional history of the ancient world many memories of giants, Atlantis and flying dragons, it looks like they were paleo UFOs). Old evidence is absolutely clear if you take the position of speculative mythology. In “The Story,” Geoffrey of Monmauz, for example, states in explicit terms that Merlin the Wise moved gigantic stones, taking advantage of superhuman capabilities.

Meanwhile, orthodox archaeologists still confront new ideas of those whom they call "unscrupulous apologists of industrial civilization."

However, an alternative study of Stonehenge is flourishing not only in England, but also in California, where Donald Cyrus even publishes

the Stonehenge Viewpoint newspaper. He takes as a basis the hypothesis of a “dome”, which was put forward by the now-forgotten researcher Aizen Weil. He spoke of the existence of a layer of ice crystals high in the atmosphere. The reflection of light from these crystals can form bright luminous arcs of 22 and 44 degrees around the Sun and the Moon. Such arcs and whole circles can be observed under certain conditions. Anyone who wants to see this effect is sent special devices Mark 1 and Mark 2 by mail. With their help, you can detect glow circles around any metal structure, as well as around the Egyptian pyramids and Stonehenge.

Sumerians and aliens

In the texts of the ancient Sumerians, there is evidence that the Sumerians had contact with aliens who flew to Earth in the second half of the 4th millennium BC from the planet Niburu. Judging by the descriptions, this planet has a strongly elongated orbit, and once in 3,600 years passes within the solar system. In the near future, it will be clear whether this mysterious planet really exists, as it is supposed to appear by calculations.

Sumerians and aliens

Archaeologists and linguists in the second half of the XX century made discoveries that allow us to revise the history of the Earth and ancient civilizations. After studying several thousand texts and astronomical observations of the ancient Sumerian state, scientists were able to obtain sensational information about the intervention of aliens in the development of humanity and the impact on the evolution and culture of primitive peoples.

Sumerian texts

According to ancient Sumerian texts, the envoys of another civilization arrived from a planet that rotates in its star system in a very elongated orbit, and passes close to the solar system once every 3,600 years. The culture and scientific knowledge of aliens have influenced humanity for several hundred thousand years. And it is thanks to them that humanity owes its appearance on Earth. Much credit goes to Zechariah Sitchina, a specialist in the study of ancient texts of Sumerian civilization, Babylon and ancient Egypt, who for 30 years studied and summarized all this sensational information.

In the Sumerian and Akkadian texts it is told about how the gods flew from heaven to their chariots of fire, and could fly to any point on earth in a short time, and could fly to the stars. They sometimes took with them the chosen ones among the people and showed them our Earth from above from space, and sometimes even took them to their home planet. There is a description of how to the Sumerian ruler Gudei, the god appeared in a golden helmet on the "black bird" and gave the order to begin the construction of a structure for it. After the construction was completed, the other gods guarded the building so that mere mortals did not fall under the stream of fire during the take-off and landing of this bird.

"Black birds" from the Sumerians called - MU. The ruler of the Sumerian city Palace, the following entry was made: "MU, they flew up into the sky like lightning, and like a huge bonfire went off into the sky." The images on the Sumerian and Hittite tablets show how objects similar to modern space rockets stand on launch platforms, as well as are depicted in flight against the background of stars. These drawings were even on the seals of the rulers of Crete. During the excavations of ancient Canaan, near Jerusalem, they found a tablet depicting a large rocket, next to which are depicted the symbols of the moon and some constellations.

In one particular temple of ancient Egypt, they worshiped the object in the form of a pyramid, which was called "ben ben." According to the tributes on it came the gods - the Anunnaki, who were the gods of the lower caste. And the Anunnaki led the Nephilim. They gave them orders on Earth, how and where it was necessary to build platforms for their spaceships. The ships of the Nephilim, the ancient peoples of Babylon and Akkad called NARU, which means “chariots emitting lightning”.

According to the Sumerian texts, the ruler of the city of Uruk, Gilgamesh, was only a third man, and two-thirds god. One day, Gilgamesh went on a journey to the Nefilim planet of the fire chariot, but when the ship rose high into the sky, and he saw from space how a large sea turned into a small puddle, he was seized with fear, and he began to implore the Anunnaki to return him back to earth, which was done.

Also during the excavations, tablets were found where space rockets were drawn in the mines. At the top of the rocket is a sphere, which is docked to the cone. The rocket is shown in section, where it is clearly visible that it has a double case (external and internal). Between the buildings there are annular bulkheads. There are access hatches between the compartments of the ship. Figures in one of the compartments in the head section, are holding levers. There is still plenty of evidence that the gods, who settled in Sumeria, have spaceships. The images on the clay tablets of the Sumerians and the explanatory icons well describe the ships of the gods. Judging by the astronomical tablets of Sumerians, it can be assumed that 4400 years BC in the Solar System there were 11 planets. Another planet, Nibiru, the birthplace of Nephilim and Anunnaki, is also depicted next to it.

Gods of the Sumerians

The cosmic gods transmitted to the ancient Sumerians incredible knowledge about space, about the Earth, about the Solar System, as well as about the most important planet - Nibiru - their homeland. Deciphered letters say that the gods ruled over 120 balls. One ball equals one turn of Nibiru around its star. Thus, aliens appeared on our planet 432 thousand years ago. Arriving on Earth about 100 thousand years ago, aliens began to conduct a genetic experiment with primitive people. And a new species was obtained, distinguished by its ability for intelligent activity, which was later controlled and directed towards evolutionary development. And somewhere around 4,000 years old, our civilization began to develop rapidly. The aliens chose rulers from among the most developed and intelligent people, who in turn deified them.

Sumerians and space

The astronomical term OAK for the Sumerians corresponds to a circle of 360 degrees. Professor of the University of Pennsylvania, H. Hilprecht, discovered that Sumer was aware of the great cosmic cycle with a period of 25,920 solar years. In ancient texts, the Sumerians describe how an asteroid belt appeared between Mars and Jupiter. There was a planet that the Sumerians called Tiomat, whose dimensions were larger than Mars. But 174 thousand great cycles ago, the planet Nibiru crossed the orbit of the planet Tiomat and then the Nephilim destroyed it to avoid a collision.

Are the observations of a UFO in our time connected with many eyewitnesses on our planet with aliens from the planet Nibiru which, according to the texts of the ancient Sumerians, should already appear near our solar system? Do not their ships observe Earthlings in space in the atmosphere of the earth and underwater? Maybe they are very surprised by the development of our civilization during its absence. And soon the unidentified flying objects will cease to be unidentified...

Time capsules

Ancient civilizations left us with encrypted messages, which, according to paleoarchaeologists, can be found on the territory of Russia. Where are they, what are they talking about and who sent them to the future from the depths of millennia? This was told in an interview by Vadim Chernobrov, a ufologist, a writer, and the head of the Kosmopoisk movement.

- There can be several "time capsules" left by dead civilizations on Earth. But, most likely, such messages, addressed from prehistoric times to modern humanity, are not summarized information about incredible technologies and secret knowledge, but a warning about possible global catastrophes, a story about the disasters that have already happened, which destroyed all life on our planet in prehistoric times.

For example, about the fall of an asteroid, the great flood, the shift of the axis of rotation of the Earth. The few people who survive in such a catastrophe will probably be able to preserve their knowledge, experience, and intellect for some time. And, of course, they will understand that ahead of their civilization are waiting for many centuries of degradation. Before it is too late, they will decide to warn future inhabitants of the Earth about the danger, or simply to tell about what happened.

- Why do you think that the representatives of the lost civilizations left us such warnings? Maybe they just decided to say hello to us, as we ourselves do, burying or mortising somewhere messages to imaginary descendants?

- I do not particularly notice today those who are interested in informing people of the distant future. Precisely far, not close. In Soviet times, time capsules were fashionable, which laid out at the enterprises,

messages to the Komsomol members of the 21st century. That is, addressing 50, well, 100 years ahead. But not for thousands, or even millions of years.

Such a future is unimaginable for us. And it turns out that this message is not to "Komsomol members", but to whom it is not known. Our civilization practically does not make such time capsules, with the exception of pitiful exceptions - the storage of grains and plants in the ice of Norway, concreted, located deep under the ground are collections of individual libraries.

In fact, if you think about it - well, why take care of the civilization that will replace ours? In this case, we must reconcile with the idea that the present humanity will disappear, go into non-existence - just as five or six more humanity disappeared before us. But it is not at all our responsibility to inform what future rational beings about our joys and anxieties, mistakes and achievements are unknown.

Why on earth, instead of doing our daily work, we suddenly take on solving the problems of the following civilizations? In addition, most people are not so pessimistic and believe that the apocalypse can be avoided. Therefore, there is no reason to spend time on the construction of some cyclopean structures for the sake of doubtful glory that in millions of years someone will find them and "decipher" them.

“Why bother with building cyclopean structures with armored time capsules?” There is an opinion that after our civilization, there will be a lot of things left, because any disaster created by man will not destroy everything.

- Yes, after developed civilizations, and after thousands of centuries, there should be structures that are not similar to natural ones. Airfields, dams, dams, roads, etc. will survive, but there are no

skyscrapers on this list. The pressure of time and the elements can only be sustained by superstable buildings - the same Egyptian pyramids have survived more than one ancient civilization and, perhaps, will survive us if, God forbid, something happens to humanity. And skyscrapers and any frame houses, as well as bridges, have a very limited shelf life compared to thousands of years: they will collapse and turn into dust.

Most likely, prehistoric builders laid their warnings on the possibility of global catastrophes in megalithic monuments. Only huge stone buildings survive millennia and reach their descendants.

Monuments from other materials are either short-lived, or someone is tempted to destroy or melt them. That is, it is unreasonable to "send to the future" metal time capsules - wilder descendants will simply let them in on swords and worthless trinkets.

It is possible that many of them, like Stonehenge, are astronomical monuments. But to think that our distant ancestors built such communities only to calculate the days of spring floods or the sowing season is naive. Rural workers, who are much closer to the earth than astronomers, openly laugh at what they need, with the help of megaliths, to predict the sowing time, because they themselves do this not by the stars, but by the temperature of the soil.

When the soil is warmed to the desired stage - you can plant. In other words, for the construction of giant megaliths any small goals are not enough. It makes sense to build them only if they have to perform their original function after many thousands of years. This role should be extremely important, otherwise for the sake of it you should not burden yourself and your relatives with titanic construction works.

Therefore, it is easy to calculate the prehistoric "time capsules" and the place where they can be. In addition to Stonehenge, these are the

great pyramids of South America and Egypt, and on the territory of our country - the disappeared ancient city of Arkaim in the Chelyabinsk region, megaliths on the Kola Peninsula, in Karelia and the Arkhangelsk region, in the regions of the legendary country of Hyperborea. And also at the bottom of the sea along the coast of the Arctic Ocean.

- Are we able to decipher the meaning of these messages at all? Or is it already lost?

- In this hope there is some kind of trap. With the change of generations, peoples, languages, something is leaving that allows people to understand each other. "Conversation" with a descendant after millions of years may be impossible if it is conducted in the language of human symbols. There are more chances to understand the language of astronomy, since astronomers, when verifying their messages, do not even turn to people, but simply to carriers of reason, imagining that only one thing can unite us with them - mathematics.

“Can there be time capsules in Earth orbit?” After all, we ourselves run them in automatic probes. Maybe old civilizations also had access to space?

- These attempts in their effectiveness remind me of throwing bottles with notes into the depths of the sea. Do not count examples when such messages reached the addressees. But most often it happened the other way around ... Meanwhile, only four time capsules sent by mankind have so far crossed the borders of the Solar system on the "Pioneers" and "Voyagers." Although, in order to seriously we expect that our packages will be found by extraterrestrial civilizations, there must be at least many thousands of such "wrappers".

But in orbit other people's time capsules may be. Find them there is much more likely than on Earth. Our planet, with its very complex

geology, is a very unfortunate storage example for millions of years. Soil erosion, continental disasters, natural disasters are too few chances to survive for any creation of human hands.

Plus human activity - megaliths and ancient monuments are often simply destroyed; they die in wars, like the famous Buddha statues in Afghanistan. But in the airless space, the capsules are not subject to destructive effects and can wait for their researchers as long as they like. And wait for them when the addressee becomes civilized so that it will be able to go out in airless space. Space is the most reliable bank for storing information, including "parcels from the distant past."

- Where should we look for space "time capsules"?

- There are several such potential places near the Earth - for example, high orbits, in which satellites can rotate forever, without decreasing or burning in the atmosphere, or so-called forbidden orbits, where unidentified space bodies move against the Earth's rotation. Oddly enough, such satellites have been known since the beginning of the space age.

The most famous of them is the "unaccounted", in the words of science fiction writer Alexander Kazantsev, the satellite "Black Prince", launched by an unknown person and inaccessible to radars. In total, there are about twenty such elusive “black princes” in the Earth’s space...

And, of course, - the moon. Time capsules can be stored there for billions of years. Even a note on a piece of paper can lie on the surface of the moon forever, unless a meteorite hits it. And in a cave or another "sublunary" vault the time capsule is not threatened, and such a danger.

Children of the Gods

The ancient legends of the Kayapos Indians (South America) speak of a mysterious creature that “once appeared in a settlement”. Aborigines call it Bep Cororotti. The newcomer was wearing a “bo” suit, covering him from head to toe. In his hands he held a “cop”, a “weapon of thunder”. When this creature entered the village, the inhabitants were terribly frightened and hid. However, there were brave souls who began to attack the alien.

But they did not manage to do any harm to the “messenger of heaven”. Their clubs and spears just crumbled when they touched “bo”. Beporotti was a “good god.” To show his power to people, he raised a “cop - the weapon of thunder”, sent it to a tree, and it turned into dust, sent it to a stone, and it crumbled.

Beporotti stayed in the village and spent many years there. He taught the inhabitants to count, showed how to heal wounds, improved the methods of hunting and introduced many changes in the life of the tribe. However, while hunting with everyone, he never “ate kayapos food”. After some time, the “messenger of the heavens” married, choosing a young girl from the tribe as his wife, and soon Bep Kororothy had children.

Traditions point out that the new kayapos were “not like everyone else,” and much smarter than the rest of the inhabitants. Beporotti made sure that the knowledge that he passed on to the tribe was not lost. For this, he “gathered several young men and women and taught them all sorts of tricks”. Once “the messenger of heaven went to a high mountain to ascend from it to heaven”. Almost all the tribe went after him to see their benefactor. Beporororothy climbed the mountain, where “a cloud descended on him, thunder sounded, lightning flashed”, dust and smoke enveloped everyone present. “In the burning cloud” and Bep Cororotti disappeared in the heavenly height ... Aborigines did not forget their

“teacher”.

Until our times, the Kayapos Indians have preserved the custom by which the festivities in honor of “the god Bep Cororti” take place. Indians weave from palm leaves ritual clothes, which symbolize the image of a deity, his costume “bo”. Kayapos dress in them and perform various ritual dances. In the hands of the dancers hold palm sticks, which represent the mysterious weapon "cop". According to researchers, the ritual clothes of the Indians strikingly resemble modern space suits.

In the legends of the Brazilian Indian tribe Tupanimba speaks of the powerful god Monana, who created the Universe and man. According to the legends of this tribe, the god Monan lived in those days among the people who worshiped him. But then people began to “live not according to the precepts of Monan” and neglect them. Enraged Monan went to heaven “in a huge sparkling cloud of fire,” deciding from there to punish people for their sins and misdeeds. He sent “heavenly fire” to Earth, which destroyed all people. Only one man spared Monan. His name was Irin-Mage, and he was pardoned for the “great veneration” of the deity. After the fire stopped raging, Irin-Mahe took one of Monana’s daughters as his wife and went down to earth to continue the human race.

A small tribe living on the banks of the river Hingu (a tributary of the Amazon), in its legends, reports amazing information about the history of mankind. According to their legends, in ancient times people lived “on a distant star”. Once all the inhabitants of the star gathered for a council to select a new place of residence. One of the “Indians” told his brethren about an unusually beautiful planet, on which he once managed to visit, passing through a “hole” in the sky. After his message, the council decided to move to Earth. The entire population of the star began to weave a thread out of cotton, along which they were to slowly descend to Earth. Soon most of the “Indians” moved to the “beautiful planet”. Thanks to this mysterious thread, the new inhabitants of the earth were

constantly in contact with their brothers remaining on the star. But the evil demon cut this thread, and the “Indians” could never again meet with their “star relatives”.

The tales of the inhabitants of the African continent, thousands of kilometers away from America, also tell us about events surprisingly resembling the tales of Brazilian Indians. In African mythology it is said that in ancient times “the children of God lived together with their father in heaven in peace, wealth and happiness”. But once God decided to test his children and sent them to Earth, banning "eating salt of the earth." The “children of God” descended from heaven along the thread that the father wove for them. But almost all sons have forgotten the father's testament and tasted the “salt”. When they decided to go up to heaven again, the thread broke, and they were forced to remain on Earth forever. Only one of the “sons” fulfilled the father’s testament and returned safely to heaven.

The ancient Tibetan texts Kandshur and Tandshur, which are stored in the dungeons of Buddhist monasteries, refer to flying machines like pearls in the sky, and transparent balloons in which “yugas were occasionally shown to people.” The oldest written source, which contains descriptions of UFO sightings, is considered papyrus, found in the collection of Professor A.Tulli, director of the Egyptian department of the Vatican Museum, which was written in the XV century. BC, during the reign of Pharaoh Thutmosis III. The papyrus says: “In the year of the twenty second, in the third month of winter, at 6 o'clock in the afternoon, the scribes of the House of Life saw a moving circle of fire in the sky ... Its dimensions were an elbow in length and an elbow in width ... They fell on their faces and reported to Pharaoh, and he thought about it an event ... After a few days, these objects in the sky became numerous and shone brighter than the Sun ... And Pharaoh looked at them with the army. By evening, the fiery circles rose higher and moved towards the south ... Volatile substance fell from the sky ... Nothing like this

happened from the very foundation of the Earth ... And Pharaoh burned incense to the gods and commanded to bring what happened to the annals of the House of Life. ”

Repeatedly references to flying across the sky of unknown disc-shaped objects are contained in the chronicles of the campaigns of Alexander the Great. The most interesting description is given in the “History of Alexander the Great” written by Giovanni Droysen. It dates back to 332 BC, when the Macedonian siege of the Phoenician city of Tire occurred. One day, five “flying shields” suddenly appeared over the Macedonian camp, moving across the sky in a triangular formation, and the object moving in the head was about twice as large as the others. In the eyes of thousands of astonished warriors, these “shields” slowly made several circles over Tire, after which lightning flashed out of them, forming gaps in the walls. The delighted Macedonians rushed to the assault, and the “flying shields” continued to circle the city until it was completely captured. Then they with great speed rose up and disappeared.

Flights of some unknown objects were observed in ancient Greece. So, the Greek philosopher Anaxagoras, who lived in the V century BC, saw in the sky an object the size of a large “log”, hanging motionless for several days and radiating an unusual glow. Another Greek philosopher Seneca, who lived in the 1st century BC, in his work “Questions of Naturalism” wrote: “In our era, beams of light that crossed the sky from east to west or vice versa were seen in the sky on bright days ... K the objects described by Posidonius belong to this class: pillars and shields covered with flame, as well as other luminous objects ... These lights in the sky appear not only at night, but during the day, and are not stars or parts of celestial bodies ... ”.

One of the characteristic descriptions is placed in the Greek history of Plutarch. It says that in 102 BC. huge darts and flaming “shields”

appeared in the sky above the Italian cities of Ameri and Turdent, which initially moved separately and then joined together. However, some objects overtook each other, although there was no apparent confrontation between them. Among the moving bodies were cigar-shaped and disc-shaped objects. The second case, described by Plutarch, occurred in 73 BC. not far from the Dardanelles, where the troops of the Roman commander Lukulla and the Bosporan king Mithridates were preparing to enter the battle: "... Suddenly, quite suddenly, the sky opened up and a large fiery body appeared, resembling a barrel, which swept down into the gap between the two armies. Frightened by this sign, the opponents dispersed without a fight. ”

Especially a lot of reports about mysterious flying objects of a round shape are contained in the writings of Roman historians and writers: Julius Obusequance - 63, Titus Livius - 30, Cicero - 9, Pliny the Elder - 26, and Dio Cassius - 14. Aristotle called them heavenly discs, and Pliny in the second volume of his Natural History gave the following classification of the luminous objects observed then: “discoids” - shaped like amber discs with a small amount of rays departing from them; “Pitei” - barrel-shaped or round; “Serratis” - shaped horns; “Lamps” - in the form of a burning torch. When describing these objects, Roman authors usually compared them with such well-known concepts like the sun, moon, round shields, logs, etc. In general, an analysis of 50 works of Roman authors shows that they describe the appearance of lights in the sky - 39 times, flying “shields” - 11, fire balls - 8, two or more suns - 12, night “sun” - 5 and unknown objects - 7 times.

In ancient Christian sources there are also descriptions of flights of some unknown objects resembling modern UFOs. Thus, in chapter 5 of the book of Zechariah the “flying barrel” is described, and in another place of this book it is reported that Zechariah saw a cylindrical object in the sky, about which the angel told Zechariah that it is “a curse that will forever hang over the Earth”. In the book of Daniel the prophet says that

he saw fire wheels in the sky. The famous “Qumran Scrolls” tells how Eve saw the chariot of fire carried by four glittering eagles through the clouds, and Adam, near whom this aircraft landed, clearly saw smoke coming between the wheels. Very rare messages about observations of unknown flying objects in the first centuries of our era have been preserved. Here is one of them: “In 235 in China, above the location of the commander Liange’s troops near Wei-Nana, a fiery red “meteor” appeared, moving from the north-east to south-west and emitting dagger rays. Three times he landed in front of Liange’s troops and behind them, moving back and forth. ”

It is also interesting that in the legends of North American Indians, according to the candidate of historical sciences V. Bilinbakhov, observations in the antiquity of flights of some circular objects were also mentioned. Thus, in the legends of the Indians of Wyoming, it was said that many moons ago a large “wheel” sailed from the sky and landed on the top of Shaman Mountain, and then flew away at the speed of a frightened bird. And in the legends of the Indians of Minnesota and Canada, it was said that "long before the arrival of the Europeans there were flying round silent chariots that could land on the sea."

Legendary Atlantis

The legendary Atlantis was considered the fourth civilization that existed on our planet. Since then, more than 3 billion years have passed, but the mystery of the Atlanteans still stirs the minds of people. The waters of the oceans then rose, flooding whole continents, then retreating, giving the land more land, but Atlantis remained buried under the water of one of the largest terrestrial oceans. It is assumed that in antiquity Atlantis was located on huge islands in the Atlantic and the Pacific Ocean.

Its size can be imagined if you mentally combine the territories of modern Asia and Libya. The Atlanteans managed to create a technically powerful state. Atlantis looked like a huge island, surrounded by several circles, which had a defensive purpose. The state was defended by sturdy stone walls, numerous bridges and high security towers.

Plato claimed that Atlantis was created by Poseidon. His wife was an ordinary earthly woman named Clayto. The family had ten sons. The most important child was considered to be a boy named Atlant. But the rest of the children were not left without possessions, they became the founders of the royal dynasties.

To surround Atlantis with water rings was the idea of Poseidon. Numerous crossings and bridges connected all the rings. The very capital of the Atlanteans was small in size - about 1 km. in diameter, not counting the suburbs.

At its peak, the population of Atlantis was just over one million people. The ancient philosopher Plato considered the Athenian state the main competitor of the Atlanteans. There were rather complicated relations between the two states, but the strongest natural catastrophe “reconciled” them - for a very short time Atlantis was wiped off the face of the Earth. But, Athens also suffered a devastating effect.

It is surprising that the Atlanteans, being a highly developed nation, did not attach importance to the fact that the main lands of the state are located in a seismically active zone.

In the center of Atlantis were the main shrines of the Atlanteans, surrounded by golden walls - temples dedicated to Clayto and Poseidon. The temples were very majestic. Gold and silver were present in their jewelry in large quantities. A large number of statues, among which the composition depicting the god who controls the chariot, with a drawn six

horses, stood out.

Atlanta possessed rational thinking, loved to fantasize and philosophize. In their free time from work, the inhabitants of Atlantis preferred to communicate with friends and relatives. Favorite topics were the reasoning about their role in the Universe. Atlanta had a developed intuition, could feel the world around them, owned telepathy. It was common for them to transmit their thoughts over long distances. So the Atlanteans, thanks to their mental abilities, could share experience and information even with alien inhabitants. They easily comprehended the laws of mechanics, physics, and chemistry. Due to this, they built amazing aircraft and technical devices, the principle of action of which we can hardly even fantasize. Among the Atlanteans there were people who were considered "industrialists". They had a massive, athletic body structure and their main duties were mining and military service to protect the borders of Atlantis.

Externally, the Atlanteans looked unusually (from our point of view): about six meters tall, seven toes, six hands on each, broad shoulders with an elongated body, huge eyes, slightly flattened nose, lips wide.

The inhabitants of Atlantis can be considered long-lived - the period of life was about a thousand years. The political system of the state of the Atlanteans could be defined as democracy: the ruler was elected by vote - the term of state leadership by one person ranged from 200 to 400 years, the Atlanteans also had a single language.

Despite their good physical shape and advanced technology, the Atlanteans were not a warlike people. They did not wage any wars, they did not have slavery, it was a very peaceful people.

Clothing and jewelry can say a lot about the people. Since Atlantis

was in warm latitudes, the inhabitants also wore light attire. Women's fashion was not much different from men's: loose wide blouses, overalls and trousers, sandals on her legs. Atlanta believed that the level of spiritual energy depended on the length of the hair on the head, so everyone had lush and long hairstyles.

All the Atlanteans were not indifferent to jewelry and decorated themselves with gold, silverware and precious stones. Gradually, the Atlanteans mastered the northern territories and they needed warm clothes: thick shirts with sleeves, pants, insulated jackets and long warm skirts (for women), shoes with fur, warm hats. It seems that the Atlantes when choosing clothes in the first place was the convenience and practicality of clothes.

The Atlantes had a very high standard of maintaining morality in the family - they chose a mate for life. For marriage, they turned to the priest, who penetrated into the “essence of their souls” and determined the compatibility of the couple. If the priest endorsed the marriage, he gave them a pair of bracelets that had to be worn on the forearm. Usually the family was in complete harmony: the children were taught to love their parents and tried to take care of them. The children studied science at the temples. There they were taught mathematics, astronomy and writing. The most favorite subject was telepathy - learning to transfer thoughts over a distance. The children went on to further studies at the university in the capital of Atlantis, the City of the Golden Gate. Each immediately chose his specialization: mineralogy, geology, mathematics, medical art, occult science, etc.

The transfer of knowledge and skills to the younger generation allowed the atlants not only to maintain a high technological level of their civilization, but also to constantly raise it. So far not so much evidence can be cited in support of these facts. But it is permissible to say with certainty that the riddles of such a work of Atlanteans as the

pyramids have not yet been solved.

One of the proverbs says: "All things are afraid of time, but time is afraid of the pyramids."

Numerous pyramidal constructions, which are located on almost all continents of the Earth, have long caused a lot of assumptions about their true purpose. By the way, the pyramids were found at the bottom of the oceans! For example, it was in the so-called Bermuda Triangle. Man-made pyramids are also found in Egypt, Australia, Mozambique, Mexico, Namibia, Brazil, China, and Russia.

Why did the ancient builders of the pyramids stop on the pyramidal form of their giant structures? No one can answer this question yet. But scientists are confident enough to say that the pyramid is not an ordinary geometric figure. The fact is that such a form allows not only accumulating energy, but also makes it possible to focus it. Most visitors to the pyramids of Giza noted a surge of strength, and sometimes they speak about the emergence of amazing visions, as it were, from the past or a completely different world. Some pyramid enthusiasts manage to build pyramidal structures right in their courtyards, using them as an object for their own recovery, “recharging” food and water.

If you look closely at the placement of the pyramids around the globe, we can say that this could be a thoughtful and effective system, the purpose of which is either in the accumulation of energy or in the global defense of the planet. The fact that the inhabitants of Atlantis possessed deep knowledge in the field of energy management is known from ancient manuscripts. It is possible that the Atlantean civilization died due to a technological disaster that occurred - it could be either an explosion or an uncontrolled energy release that not only destroyed the land of the Atlanteans, but also changed the geography of the Earth.

As the ancient historian Hermes Trismegist believed, there was a connection between the mysterious catastrophe and the pyramids. He claimed that the Atlanteans used pyramids for energy storage on a huge scale and created portals to other dimensions. According to the ancient historian, the Atlanteans, to put it mildly, "went too far" - they decided that they had reached the level of their sovereignty and decided to open the way to the forbidden worlds. It was very dangerous - such contact could destroy our world. In addition, the Supreme ruler of the Atlanteans decided to change the magnetic poles of the Earth. A chain of dangerous and erroneous decisions led to the destruction of Atlantis. The fact that no one else suffered from the actions of the "overblown" Atlantes indicates that the passage to the forbidden worlds was not open.

It is not excluded that at some instant the ruler of the Atlanteans realized his mistake and decided to sacrifice his people to save all life on Earth. It could well have happened that some Atlanteans managed to escape and found new civilizations, transferring to them some of their knowledge.

It seems that many pyramids still perform their functions. For example, all the mysterious events taking place in the Bermuda Triangle can be attributed to the functioning of the pyramids at the bottom of the Atlantic. Unexplained disappearances of ships and airplanes, as well as the appearance of mysterious objects in the sky over many of the settlements are known. Maybe all this is connected with the work of the reactors left from the ancient civilization that support the portals between other dimensions?

It is clear that many of the research results of mysterious artifacts, which can rightly be attributed to the pyramids, are classified by the military and governments of countries. Only small crumbs of information on this subject can be obtained.

Nowadays, numerous technical devices have appeared that allow us to explore the bottom of the seas and oceans: the design of deep-sea bathyscapes has improved; reliable scuba gears and costumes have appeared. This allows you to open all new and new secrets and riddles. These include the sinking of the two oceans, the amazing and mysterious Atlantis.

Technique in antiquity

In the XIII century, the monks of the Franciscan Order were considered the most educated people. So the brother of this order - Roger Bacon gained fame as an outstanding English scientist and philosopher. In his “Message about the secret actions of art and nature and the insignificance of magic,” the scientist monk argued that in ancient times humanity had many wonderful technical devices that were thousands of years ahead of their time.

Thus, he described the existence of "large ships without rowers, who crossed rivers and seas, managed by one person, and with greater speed than if they were filled with rowers"; “Bridges over rivers without supports or any support”; “Instruments for flight: so that a person would sit in the middle of the instrument, rotating an invention”; "Wagons that moved without animals with unimaginable swiftness"; "Tools with which one person can forcibly attract a thousand people to himself against their will."

Bacon had an accurate description of a “small-sized instrument that lifts and lowers unimaginable weights. ... with the help of a tool with a height of three fingers and the same width, a person could save himself and his loved ones from any danger of imprisonment, and rise and descend. " Until now, researchers of the Franciscan works cannot explain how a monk could get access to descriptions of the most ancient

technological devices. But traces of their use in ancient times were found in different parts of our planet.

We can safely say that the tool owned by the legendary King Solomon was an Old Testament high-tech. In the chronicles of the "king of kings" it is said: "Solomon had a wonderful worm called" Shamir ". This worm possessed the properties of tesla and granil. With the help of "Shamir" hemmed a front stone for the temple and the house of Solomon and cut the gems for koshen. The worm was large with barley grain, and the hardest objects could not resist its miraculous properties. They kept him wrapped in wool cotton wool in a lead vessel filled with barley bran. ” With confidence, it can be argued that it was used in the construction of the famous shrine of all Jews - the Jerusalem Temple. We received information that God forbade Solomon to use an iron tool in building the temple: “And when this House was built, they built it from imported solid stones; neither the hammer nor the ax, no iron cannon could be heard in the House when it was built.”

Really "Shamir" was an analogue of a modern laser !!! This is what the author, Rabbi Zamir Cohen, wrote in the book “Torah and Science”: “Recently, the use of beams for cutting various materials has been expanding more and more, which allows us to produce it with greater accuracy and purity. Today, lasers are used in many industries, from diamond processing to operating theaters. Although radiation, like electricity, is common in nature, science has learned about these phenomena recently, and has managed to use them only in our century. Lasers began to make and use only a few decades ago. And now, it turns out, almost three thousand years ago, when King Shlomo (Solomon) built the First Temple, the Torah sages knew about the possibility of using beams to cut hard materials. ” Cohen believed that “Shamir” used some kind of radiation for cutting stones: “one should just keep Shamir opposite the right place, and the radiation coming from him would cut the stone”. And the fact that it was necessary to store “Shamir” in a lead

vessel indicates a possible radioactive emission emitting by this device.

By the way, this unique cutting tool went to Solomon from the prophet Moses. This device was used by Moses to cut the names of generations of the Jewish people on precious stones long before the construction of the temple of Solomon. Consequently, the device was brought from Egypt. Interestingly, the Egyptian trail can be traced to the path of many unique technological finds dating back to the times of very distant antiquity.

The description of another Egyptian find, or rather, an artifact - the Ark of the Covenant is very similar, in terms of technology, described above, "Shamir".

The ark was also dangerous to the health of those who approached it. Serving him, even had to wear special protective clothing.

Not only is the fact that at present the Ark of the Covenant is allegedly stored somewhere in the treasury of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, but the access to it for scientists is closed. But many secrets related to holy relics, such as the Ark of the Covenant, could be revealed, and be taken care of by qualified specialists.

But it remains to speculate only on the information that has become known through the work of numerous historians, archaeologists and other specialists in different branches of knowledge.

If we consider that man exists on earth for several million years, and our civilization has tens of thousands of years, we can assume that before us there could have been other highly developed civilizations and amazing artifacts refer to the times of their life activity on Earth.

These ancient artifacts include “Corrugated Balls” from South

Africa. For several decades, miners from this region of the earth have found mysterious and very strange metal balls - about three sentiments in diameter, having three parallel grooves in the middle. The balls found can be attributed to two types: some are made of a single piece of metal of a bluish color and have white spots, the second is hollow inside, filled with an unknown white substance. The rock in which these amazing balls are found belongs to the far Precambrian era (which is about 2.8 billion years ago!). Today, even there is no version for what purpose they could create.

Another interesting historical find is the Ik Stones. In the 1930s, they accidentally fell into the hands of Dr. Javier Cabrera. He became so interested in them that later, I collected a collection of 1100 such stones. Experts have determined their age - from 500 to 1500 years. On these stones are images of idols, scenes of surgical treatment, and most often pictures of a sexual nature (this is typical of the culture of the ancients). Some of the stones also have colorful images of dinosaurs, stegosaurs, brontosaurs, ptehosaurs and unknown three-legged creatures. I wonder who their ancient "artists" could see them to portray?

Also, a lot of interest and finding pearl divers near Crete. So, on the wreck among the bronze and marble statues there was an unusual device consisting of screws and castors. On the device there is an inscription about the date of manufacture - this is the 80th year BC! Experts believe that this device is an analogue of the astrolabe, used by astronomers. The device found is even more complicated than the astrolabe, so it could be used much more widely than modern researchers assume. At the same time, according to ancient records, such mechanisms became known to people only from 1575!

Today, even children are known rechargeable batteries. But there is a similar battery, made two thousand years ago! It was called the “Baghdad Battery” and was found on the ruins of the Parthian period.

The device itself consists of a clay vessel, inside of which is placed a copper cylinder with an oxidized iron core. Experts are sure that if you fill this artifact with alkaline solution or acid, it will work like a regular battery. It is assumed that it was this battery that was used by the ancient craftsmen to cover objects with gold by electrolytic deposition. If so, then why so little evidence was found for the existence of such a progressive technology on Earth in deep antiquity?

It is impossible not to tell about the discovery of American geologists, who in 1961 were engaged in the search for minerals in the mountains of California. They found an amazing stone, assessing it as semi-precious. Cutting the stone, geologists discovered a porcelain object inside. In the center of the porcelain "filling" of the stone was a metal rod. Scientists have suggested that it took Mother Nature at least 500 thousand years to put this porcelain miracle in stone. No one doubts that the item found in the stone is a technical product of a highly developed civilization. Upon further investigation of the ancient device, it turned out that the porcelain core was located inside the hexagon case, from one of the ends of the object there was a thin spring (like a modern spark plug). This subject has caused heated controversy among specialists. But, unfortunately, it is impossible to continue the study of this artifact - it was irretrievably lost.

Among other things, today there is a lot of discussion about a small model of an airplane found in 1898 in the tomb of Sakkvara. Experts, examining the subject from the point of view of aerodynamics, argue that the shape of the wing, fuselage and tail perfectly repeat the characteristics of the American Space Shuttle.

We all at school all studied the fossils that were formed many thousands of years ago. But there are fossils that can not be explained in any way. It is about the imprint of the human palm on limestone, which dates back to 110 million years. And, in the Canadian Arctic, an imprint

of a human finger was also found, referring to the period as the imprint of the above palm. In Utah, an imprint of a foot sandal was found - the age of the find is 600 million years ago.

According to historical science, 65 million years ago, mankind did not know how to handle metal. But, in France, mysterious metal pipes were found in the deposits of the Cretaceous period. There is no doubt that they were created by the hands of intelligent beings.

From all this we can assume several options:

- on Earth reasonable people appeared long before that period, than we claim;
- on Earth lived, in ancient times, other highly developed civilizations;
- we do not have methods that can more accurately determine the age of the finds.

It should also be noted that today there is no consistent and convincing explanation for any of the artifacts found and listed above. But, in any case, all the artifacts found may encourage experts to reconsider and rethink the real life story on our planet. And we are waiting for more interesting sensations!

What were the Sumerians?

Sumerians - were "blackheads". This people, who appeared in the south of Mesopotamia in the middle of the 3rd millennium BC from nowhere, is now called the “progenitor of modern civilization,” and no one even suspected him of it until the middle of the 19th century. Time erased Schumer from the annals of history and, if it were not linguists, perhaps we would never have learned about Sumer.

But I will probably begin with the year 1778, when the Dane Carsten Niebuhr, who led the expedition to Mesopotamia of 1761, published copies of the cuneiform royal inscription from Persepolis. He first suggested that the 3 columns in the inscription are three different types of cuneiform containing the same text.

In 1798, another Dane, Friedrich Christian Munter, put forward a hypothesis that 1st class letters are alphabetic old Persian writing (42 characters), 2nd class is a syllable letter, 3rd is ideographic signs. But the first who managed to read the text was not a Dane but a German, a Latin teacher in Göttingen, Grotendand. He was attracted by a group of seven cuneiform signs. Grotendfend suggested that this word was Tsar, and the rest of the signs were selected on the basis of historical and linguistic analogies. In the end, Groteinfand made the following translation:

Xerxes, King of the Great, King of Kings Darius, King, son, Achaemenides.

However, only 30 years later, Frenchman Eugene Burnouf and Norwegian Christian Lassain found the correct equivalents for almost all cuneiform signs of the 1st group. In 1835, the second multilingual inscription on a rock in Behistuna was found and in 1855 Edwin Norris managed to decipher the 2nd type of writing, consisting of hundreds of syllable characters. The inscription was in Elam language (nomadic tribes called Amorites or Amorites in the Bible).

With the 3rd type it turned out to be even more difficult. It was a completely forgotten language. One sign there could indicate a syllable and a whole word. Consonants acted only as a part of a syllable, whereas vowels could appear as separate signs. For example, the sound "p" could be transmitted by six different signs, depending on the context. On January 17, 1869, linguist Jules Oppert stated that the language of the 3rd group is .... Sumerian ... So there should be a Sumerian people ... But there was also a theory that it was only artificial - "sacred language "the

priests of Babylon. In 1871, Archibald Sis pulicked the first Sumerian text, the royal inscription of Schulgi. But only in 1889, the definition of the Sumerian is accepted everywhere.

SUMMARY: What we now call the Sumerian language is actually an artificial construction, built on analogies with the inscriptions of peoples who have adopted the Sumerian cuneiform - Elam, Akkadian and Old Persian texts. Now remember how the ancient Greeks distorted foreign names and evaluate the possible authenticity of the sound of the “restored Sumerian”. Strange, but the Sumerian language has no ancestors or descendants. Sometimes Sumerian is called the "Latin of ancient Babylon" - but one must be aware that Sumerian did not become the ancestor of a powerful language group, only the roots of a few dozen words remained.

The appearance of the Sumerians

I must say that southern Mesopotamia is not the best place in the world. The complete absence of forests and minerals. The swampiness, frequent floods accompanied by changes in the bed of the Euphrates due to low banks and, as a result, the complete absence of roads. The only thing there was in abundance is reed, clay and water. However, in combination with the fertile soil fertilized by floods, it was enough for the very first city-states of ancient Sumer to bloom there at the very end of the 3rd millennium BC.

We do not know where the Sumerians came from, but when they appeared in Mesopotamia, people already lived there. The tribes inhabiting in the deepest antiquity of Mesopotamia, lived on islands, towering among the marshes. They built their settlements on artificial earth mounds. Drying the surrounding swamps, they created the most ancient system of artificial irrigation. According to the finds in Kish, they used microlithic tools.

The earliest settlement discovered in Southern Mesopotamia was located near El Obeid (near Ur), on a river island that towered above the marshy plain. The population living here was engaged in hunting and fishing, but it was already moving towards more progressive types of farming: cattle breeding and farming.

The culture of El Obeid existed for a very long time. Its roots go back to the ancient local cultures of Upper Mesopotamia. However, the first elements of the Sumerian culture are already appearing.

From the skulls from the burials, it was determined that the Sumerians were not a one-racial ethnos: there are also brachycephals ("round-headed") and dolichocephaly ("long-headed"). However, this could be the result of mixing with the local population. So we cannot even attribute them to a certain ethnic group with complete confidence. At present, with some certainty, it can only be said that the Semites of Akkad and the Sumerians of Southern Mesopotamia differed sharply from each other, both in their appearance and in their language.

In the oldest communities of southern Mesopotamia in the third millennium BC almost all the products produced here were consumed locally and subsistence farming reigned. Clay and reed were widely used. In ancient times, clay was molded from clay - first by hand, and later on a special pottery wheel. Finally, clay was used to make a large amount of the most important building material - brick, which was prepared with admixture of reeds and straw. This brick was sometimes dried in the sun, and sometimes burned in a special furnace. By the beginning of the third millennium BC, are the oldest buildings, built of peculiar large bricks, one side of which forms a flat surface, and the other - convex. A major revolution in technology produced the discovery of metals. One of the first metals known to the peoples of the southern part of Mesopotamia was copper, the name of which is found in both the

Sumerian and Akkadian languages. Somewhat later, bronze appeared, which was made of copper-lead alloy, and later - with tin. Recent archaeological discoveries indicate that even the middle of the third millennium BC. e. in Mesopotamia, iron was known, obviously meteoric.

The next period of the Sumerii archaic is called the Uruk period at the site of the most important excavations. This era is characterized by a new type of ceramics. Clay vessels, equipped with high handles and a long spout, probably reproduce the ancient metal prototype. The vessels are made on a potter's wheel; however, in their ornamentation they are much more modest than the painted ceramics of the time of El Obeid. However, economic life and culture receive their further development in this era. There is a need for the preparation of documents. In this regard, there is still a primitive painting (pictographic) writing, traces of which are preserved on the cylindrical seals of the time. The inscriptions have a total of up to 1,500 picture marks, from which the ancient Umerite script gradually grew.

After the Sumerians left a huge amount of clay cuneiform tablets. Perhaps it was the first bureaucracy in the world. The earliest inscriptions date back to 2900 BC and contain business records. Researchers complain that the Sumerians left behind a huge number of "economic" records and "lists of gods" but did not bother to write down the "philosophical basis" of their belief system. Therefore, our knowledge is only an interpretation of cuneiform sources, most of which were translated and rewritten by the priests of later cultures, for example, the Epic of Gilgamesh or the poem Enuma Elish dating from the beginning of the 2nd millennium BC. So, perhaps, we read a kind of digest, similar to the adaptive version of the Bible for modern children. Especially considering that most texts are compiled from several separate sources (due to poor preservation).

Property stratification that occurred within rural communities led

to the gradual disintegration of the communal system. The growth of productive forces, the development of trade and slavery, and finally, predatory wars contributed to the isolation of a small group of slave-owning aristocracy from the whole mass of community members. Aristocrats who owned slaves and partly land were called "big people" (lugal), opposed by "little people", that is, free poor members of rural communities.

The earliest evidence of the existence of slave states in Mesopotamia dates back to the beginning of the third millennium BC. e. Judging by the documents of this era, these were very small states, or rather, primary state formations, headed by kings. In the principalities that had lost their independence, the highest representatives of the slave-owning aristocracy, who bore the ancient semi-Hebrew title "tsatesi" (epsi), ruled. The economic foundation of these ancient slave states was the land fund of the country centralized in the hands of the state. The communal lands cultivated by free peasants were considered state property, and their population was obliged to bear all kinds of duties in favor of the latter.

The disunity of city-states created a problem with the exact dating of events in ancient Sumer. The fact is that each city-state had its own chronicles. And the lists of kings that have come down to us are mostly written not earlier than the Akkadian period and are a mixture of scraps of various "temple lists" that led to confusion and errors. But in general, everything looks like this:

2900 - 2316 BC - the heyday of the Sumerian city-states

2316 - 2200 BC - the union of the Sumerians under the rule of the Akkadian dynasty (the Semitic tribes of the northern part of the Southern Mesopotamia who adopted the Sumerian culture)

2200 - 2112 BC - Interregnum. The period of fragmentation and invasions of nomads -kuts

2112 - 2003 BC - Sumer Renaissance, the heyday of culture

2003 BC - the fall of Sumer and Akkad under the onslaught of the Amorites (Elamites). Anarchy

1792 - The rise of Babylon under Hammurabi (the Old Testament of Babylon)

After its fall, the Sumerians left what had picked up many other nations that came to this land - Religion.

Religion of the Ancient Sumer

Let's touch the Sumerians Religion. It seems that in Sumer, the origins of religion were purely materialistic, and not "ethical," roots. The cult of the Gods was aimed not at "purification and holiness" but was intended to ensure a good harvest, military successes, etc ... The most ancient of the Sumerian Gods mentioned in the most ancient tablets with "lists of gods" .e.), personified the forces of nature - sky, sea, sun, moon, wind, etc., then gods appeared - patrons of cities, farmers, shepherds, etc. The Sumerians argued that everything in the world belongs to the gods — temples were not the seat of the gods, who were obliged to care for people, but the barn of the gods, the bread basket.

The main deities of the Sumerian Pantheon were the Academy of Sciences (the sky - the male element) and KI (the earth - the female principle). Both of these beginnings sprang from a pristine ocean that spawned a mountain, from tightly bound heaven and earth.

On the mountain of heaven and earth, An conceived [the gods] the Anunnaki. From this union was born the god of air, Enlil, who divided

heaven and earth.

There is a hypothesis that at the beginning of maintaining order in the world were the functions of Enki, the god of wisdom and the sea. But then, as the city-state of Nippur, the Enlil god, was elevated, it was he who took the leading place among the gods.

Unfortunately, not a single Sumerian myth about the creation of the world has reached us. The course of events presented in the Akkadian myth "Enuma Elish", according to the researchers, does not correspond to the concept of Sumerians, despite the fact that most of the gods and scenes in it are borrowed from the Sumerian beliefs.

At first, the gods lived hard, everything had to be done by them, there was no one to serve them. Then they created people to serve themselves.

It would seem that An, like other creator gods, should have had a leading role in Sumerian mythology. And, indeed, he was revered, the truth is most likely symbolically. His temple in Ur was called E.ANNA - "House of AN". The first kingdom was called "the kingdom of Anu." However, according to the ideas of Sumerians, An practically does not interfere in the affairs of people and therefore the main role in the "everyday life" was transferred to other gods, led by Enlil. However, Enlil was not omnipotent, because the supreme power belonged to the council of the fifty main gods, among whom the seven main gods, “those who decide the fate”, were particularly distinguished.

It is believed that the structure of the council of gods repeated the "earthly hierarchy" - where the rulers, Ensi, ruled together with the "Council of Elders", in which a group of the most worthy was distinguished ...

One of the foundations of Sumerian mythology, the exact meaning of which is not established, is the "ME" that played a huge role in the religious and ethical system of Sumer. In one of the myths, more than one hundred “IUs” are named, of which less than half were able to read and decipher. Here such concepts as justice, kindness, peace, victory, lies, fear, crafts, etc. , everything is somehow connected with public life. Some researchers believe that "me" is the prototype of all life, radiated by gods and temples, "Divine rules."

Generally in Sumer, the gods were like people. In their relationship there are matchmaking and war, rape and love, deception and anger. There is even a myth about a man who possessed the goddess Inanna in a dream. It is remarkable, but the whole myth is imbued with sympathy for man.

Interestingly, the Sumerian paradise is not intended for people - it is the abode of the gods, where sadness, old age, illness and death are unknown, and the only problem that concerns the gods is the problem of fresh water. By the way, in ancient Egypt, the concept of paradise was not at all. Sumerian hell - Chur - a gloomy dark underground world, where on the way where there were three attendants - "man of the door", "man of the underground river", "carrier". Reminds of the ancient Greek Hades and Sheol of the ancient Jews. This empty space separating the earth from the pristine ocean is filled with the shadows of the dead, wandering without hope of return and demons.

In general, the views of the Sumerians, are reflected in many later religions. (more >>>) but now we are much more interested in their contribution to the technical side of the development of modern civilization.

The story begins in Sumer

One of the greatest experts on Schumer, Professor Samuel Noah Kramer, in his book "The Story Begins in Sumer" listed 39 subjects in which the Sumerians were pioneers. In addition to the first writing system, which we have already mentioned, he included in this list the wheel, the first schools, the first bicameral parliament, the first historians, the first "almanac of the tiller"; Cosmogony and cosmology first appeared in Sumer, the first collection of proverbs and aphorisms appeared, and literary debates were conducted for the first time; the image of "Noah" was first created; the first book catalog appeared here, the first money circulated (silver shekels in the form of "ingots by weight"), taxes were first introduced, the first laws were passed and social reforms were implemented, medicine appeared, and for the first time attempts were made to achieve peace and harmony in society.

In the field of medicine, the Sumerians from the very beginning had very high standards. The library of Ashurbanipal, which was found by Layard in Nineveh, had a clear order, it had a large medical department in which there were thousands of clay tablets. All medical terms were based on words borrowed from the Sumerian language. Medical procedures were described in special reference books, which contained information on hygienic rules, operations, such as cataract removal, the use of alcohol for disinfection during surgical operations. Sumerian medicine differed in its scientific approach to the diagnosis and prescription of a course of treatment, both therapeutic and surgical.

The Sumerians were excellent travelers and explorers — they were also credited with inventing the world's first ships. One Akkadian dictionary of Sumerian words contained at least 105 designations of various types of vessels — in terms of their size, purpose, and type of cargo. One inscription, excavated in Lagash, talks about the possibilities of repairing ships and lists the types of materials that the local ruler, Gudea, brought his god Ninurta for the construction of the temple around 2200 BC. The breadth of the range of these products is striking - from

gold, silver, copper - to diorite, carnelian and cedar. In some cases, these materials were transported over thousands of miles.

The first brick kiln was also built in Sumer. The use of such a large furnace made it possible to burn products made of clay, which gave them particular strength due to internal stress, without poisoning the air with a drink and ash. The same technology was used for smelting metals from ore, for example copper - for this, the ore was heated to temperatures above 1500 degrees Fahrenheit in a closed furnace with a low oxygen supply. This process, called smelting, became necessary already in the early stages, as soon as the supply of natural native copper was exhausted. Researchers of ancient metallurgy were extremely surprised at how quickly the Sumerians learned the methods of ore dressing, smelting and casting. These advanced technologies were mastered by them only a few centuries after the emergence of the Sumerian civilization.

Even more striking was the fact that the Sumerians mastered the methods of producing alloys - the process by which various metals are chemically combined when heated in a furnace. The Sumerians learned how to make bronze, a hard but well-processed metal that changed the whole course of human history. The ability to alloy copper with tin was the greatest achievement for three reasons. First, it was necessary to select a very accurate ratio of copper and tin (analysis of Sumerian bronze showed the optimal ratio - 85% copper to 15% tin). Secondly, in Mesopotamia there was no tin at all. (Unlike, for example, from Tiahuanaco) Thirdly, tin is not found in nature in its natural form at all. To extract it, from ore - tin stone - a rather complicated process is needed. This is not a case that can be opened by chance. The Sumerians had about thirty words to denote different types of copper of different quality, but to use tin, they used the word AN.NA, which means literally "Heavenly Stone" - which many view as evidence that Sumerian technology was a gift from the gods.

Thousands of clay tablets containing hundreds of astronomical terms were found. Some of these tablets contained mathematical formulas and astronomical tables by which the Sumerians could predict a solar eclipse, various phases of the moon, and trajectories of planets. A study of ancient astronomy revealed the remarkable accuracy of these tables (known as ephemeris). No one knows how they were calculated, but we can ask ourselves: why was this needed?

"The Sumerians measured the rising and setting of visible planets and stars relative to the terrestrial horizon, using the same heliocentric system that is used now. We adopted from them also the division of the celestial sphere into three segments - northern, central and southern (respectively, from ancient Sumerians -" Enlil's path "," Anu's path "and" Ea's path "). In essence, all modern concepts of spherical astronomy, including a full 360-degree spherical circle, zenith, horizon, axes of the celestial sphere, poles, ecliptic, equinox, etc., all of a sudden has arisen Sumer.

All the knowledge of the Sumerians regarding the movement of the Sun and the Earth was combined in their first created in the world calendar created in the city of Nippur - the solar-lunar calendar, beginning in 3760 BC. The Sumerians counted 12 lunar months, which were approximately 354 days, and then added an additional 11 days to get a full solar year. This procedure, called intercalation, was performed annually, until, after 19 years, the solar and lunar calendar were not combined. The Sumerian calendar was made very precisely so that the key days (for example, the New Year always falls on the day of the vernal equinox). Surprisingly, such a developed astronomical science was not at all necessary for this newly born society.

In general, the Sumerians' mathematics had "geometric" roots and was very unusual. Personally, I don’t understand how such a number

system could have originated in primitive peoples. But better judge it yourself .. (Details).

Mathematics Sumerians.

The Sumerians used the sixties notation. For the image of numbers, only two characters were used: "wedge" was 1; 60; 3600 and onwards from 60; "hook" - 10; 60 x 10; 3600 x 10, etc. The digital record was based on the positional principle, but if you, on the basis of the number base, think that the numbers in Sumer were displayed as 60 degrees, then you are mistaken.

The basis in the Sumerian system is not taken 10, but 60, but then this basis is strangely replaced by the number 10, then 6, and then again by 10, etc. And thus, positional numbers line up in the following row:

1, 10, 60, 600, 3600, 36 000, 216 000, 2 160 000, 12 960 000.

This cumbersome six-decimal system allowed Sumerians to calculate fractions and multiply numbers to millions, extract roots and rise to a power. In many respects, this system even surpasses the decimal system we are currently using. First, the number 60 has ten prime dividers, while 100 has only 7. Secondly, it is the only system that is ideally suited for geometric calculations, and this explains the fact that it continues to be used nowadays from here, for example, dividing a circle into 360 degrees.

We seldom realize that we owe not only our geometry, but also the modern way of calculating time, to the Sumerian number system with a sixfold decimal basis. Dividing the hour by 60 seconds was not at all arbitrary - it is based on a six-decimal system. The echoes of the Sumerian numeral system are preserved in the division of days into 24 hours, years into 12 months, feet into 12 inches, and in the existence of a dozen as measures of quantity. They are also found in the modern

counting system, in which numbers from 1 to 12 stand out separately, followed by numbers like 10 + 3, 10 + 4, etc.

Now we should not be surprised that the zodiac was also another invention of the Sumerians, an invention that was later adopted by other civilizations. But the Sumerians did not use the signs of the zodiac, tying them to each month, as we do now in horoscopes. They used them in a purely astronomical sense - in the sense of the deviation of the earth's axis, the movement of which divides the full cycle of precession into 25,920 years into 12 periods of 2,160 years. With a twelve month motion of the Earth in orbit around the Sun, the picture of the starry sky, forming a large sphere of 360 degrees, changes. The concept of the zodiac arose by dividing this circle into 12 equal segments (orbs of the zodiac) of 30 degrees each. Then the stars in each group united into constellations, and each of them received its name corresponding to their modern names. Thus, there is no doubt that the concept of the zodiac was first used in Sumer. The inscriptions of zodiac signs (representing imaginary pictures of the starry sky), as well as their arbitrary division into 12 spheres, prove that the corresponding zodiac signs used in other, later cultures could not appear as a result of independent development.

Studies of Sumerian mathematics, to the great surprise of scientists, have shown that their numerical system is closely related to the precessional cycle. The unusual moving principle of the Sumerian sixties decimal system focuses on the number 12,960,000, which is exactly equal to 500 large precessional cycles occurring in 25,920 years. The absence of any other, except astronomical, possible applications for the products of the numbers 25 920 and 2160 can only mean one thing - this system is designed specifically for astronomical purposes.

It seems that scientists shy away from answering the uncomfortable question, which is this: how could the Sumerians, whose civilization lasted only 2,000 years, be able to notice and fix a cycle of celestial

movements that lasted 25,920 years? And why does the beginning of their civilization relate to the middle of the period between the changes of the zodiac? Does this not indicate that they inherited astronomy from the gods?

Sumerians and Aliens

It is interesting that these are inconsistencies and there are many weighty evidences, in the texts of ancient Sumerians, there is evidence that this people had contact with aliens who flew to Earth in the second half of the 4th millennium BC from the planet Niburu. Judging by the descriptions, this planet has a strongly elongated orbit, and once in 3,600 years passes within the solar system. In the near future, it will be clear whether this mysterious planet actually exists, as it is supposed to appear by calculations.

Archaeologists and linguists in the second half of the twentieth century made discoveries that allow to reconsider the history of the Earth and ancient civilizations. After studying several thousand texts and astronomical observations of the ancient Sumerian state, scientists managed to get sensational information about the intervention of an extraterrestrial civilization in the development of mankind and the impact on the evolution and culture of primitive peoples.

According to ancient Sumerian texts, the envoys of another civilization arrived from a planet that rotates in its star system in a very elongated orbit, and passes close to the solar system once every 3,600 years. The culture and scientific knowledge of aliens have influenced humanity for several hundred thousand years. And it is thanks to them that humanity owes its appearance on Earth. Much credit goes to Zechariah Sitchin, a specialist in the study of ancient texts of Sumerian civilization, Babylon and the Civilization of ancient Egypt, who for 30 years studied and summarized all this sensational information. The

Sumerian and Akkadian texts describe how the gods flew from heaven to their chariots of fire, and could fly to any point on earth in a short time, and could fly to the stars. Sometimes they took with them the chosen ones among the people and showed them our Earth from above from space, and sometimes even took them to their home planet. There is a description of how to the Sumerian ruler Gudei, the god appeared in a golden helmet on the "black bird" and gave the order to begin the construction of a structure for it. After the construction was completed, the other gods guarded the building so that mere mortals did not fall under the stream of fire during the take-off and landing of this bird.

"Black birds" from the Sumerians called - MU. The ruler of the Sumerian city Palace, the following entry was made: "MU, they flew up into the sky like lightning, and like a huge bonfire went off into the sky." The images on the Sumerian and Hittite tablets show how objects similar to modern space rockets stand on launch platforms, as well as are depicted in flight against the background of stars. These drawings were even on the seals of the rulers of Crete. During the excavations of ancient Canaan, near Jerusalem, they found a tablet depicting a large rocket, next to which symbols of the moon and some constellations are depicted.

In one particular temple of ancient Egypt, they worshiped the object, in the form of a pyramid, which was called "ben ben". According to the tributes on it came the gods - the Anunnaki, who were the gods of the lower caste. And the Anunnaki led the Nephilim. They gave them orders on Earth, how and where it was necessary to build platforms for their spaceships. The ships of the Nephilim the ancient peoples of Babylon and Akkad called NARU, which means “chariots emitting lightning”. According to Sumerian texts, the ruler of the city of Uruk, Gilgamesh, was only a third man, and two-thirds god. One day, Gilgamesh went on a journey to the Nefilim planet of the fire chariot, but when the ship rose high into the sky, and he saw from space how the big

sea turned into a small puddle, he was seized with fear, and he began to implore the Anunnaki to return him back to earth, which was done.

Also during the excavations, tablets were found where space rockets were drawn in the mines. At the top of the rocket is a sphere, which is docked to the cone. The rocket is shown in section, where it is clearly visible that it has a double case (external and internal). Between the buildings there are annular bulkheads. There are access hatches between the compartments of the ship. Figures in one of the compartments in the head section, are holding levers. There is still plenty of evidence that the gods who settled in Sumeria have spaceships. The images on the clay tablets of the Sumerians and the explanatory icons well describe the ships of the gods. Judging by the astronomical tablets of Sumerians, it can be assumed that 4400 years BC in the solar system there were 11 planets. Another planet, Nibiru, the birthplace of Nephilim and Anunnaki is also depicted next to it.

The cosmic gods transferred to the ancient Sumer incredible knowledge about space, about the Earth, about the Solar System, as well as about the most important planet - Nibiru - their homeland. Deciphered letters say that the gods ruled over 120 balls. One ball equals one turn of Nibiru around its star. Thus, aliens appeared on our planet 432 thousand years ago. Arriving on Earth about 100 thousand years ago, aliens began to conduct a genetic experiment with primitive people. And a new species was obtained, distinguished by its ability for intelligent activity, which was later controlled and directed towards evolutionary development. And somewhere around 4,000 years old, our civilization began to develop rapidly. The newcomers chose rulers from among the most developed and intelligent people, who in turn deified them.

The astronomical term OAK for the Sumerians corresponds to a circle of 360 degrees. Professor of the University of Pennsylvania, H. Hilprecht, discovered that Sumer was aware of the great cosmic cycle

with a period of 25,920 solar years. In ancient texts, the Sumerians describe how an asteroid belt appeared between Mars and Jupiter. There was a planet that the Sumerians called Tiomat, whose dimensions were larger than Mars. But 174 thousand great cycles ago, the planet Nibiru crossed the orbit of the planet Tiomat and then the Nephilim destroyed it to avoid a collision.

Are the observations of a UFO in our time related to a multitude of eyewitnesses on our planet with aliens from the planet Nibiru, which, according to the texts of the ancient Sumerians, should already appear near our solar system? Do not their ships observe Earthlings in space in the atmosphere of the earth and underwater? Maybe they are very surprised by the development of our civilization during its absence. And soon unidentified flying objects will cease to be unidentified.

The most round archaeological mystery in the world

Perhaps this is the most circular archaeological mystery in the world, because it is represented by almost perfect stone balls discovered in Costa Rica in the 1930s. Why did the ancients make these balls? This question remains unanswered, on this score there are only hypotheses of scientists, and sometimes quite unusual.

Today in Costa Rica more than 300 stone balls are found, the weight of the largest reaches 16 tons.

In Costa Rica, stone balls were discovered in the 30s of the 20th century; they were found by workers who cut down impenetrable jungles under banana plantations. They were amazed at the perfectly round balls lying on the surface of the earth, the most impressive of which were more than 2 meters in diameter.

Some of the workers remembered the local belief that the ancient Indians hid their gold in such stones, they began to break stone balls into pieces with sledgehammers and even blow up dynamite. Of course, there was no gold inside, but, most likely, the unique finds would have been destroyed by insane “gold miners”, but, fortunately, the company’s management intervened in time and stopped this barbarism.

Local geologists reacted rather calmly to such exotic finds, they explained the formation of balls by volcanic activity, but archaeologists had a different opinion, because some of the balls had obvious signs of processing and grinding. The fact that the balls were made by people, testified and their location. In a number of cases, they formed various geometric shapes — triangles, parallelograms, tortuous or straight lines. Some researchers even found an intricate arrangement of balls ... a map of the starry sky.

BALLS THAT PLAYED THE GODS

Erich von Daniken, a well-known writer and supporter of paleovizita aliens from space, called these stone balls "balls that the gods played." Like archaeologists, he does not doubt their artificial origin. Scientists, of course, tried to find some information about who made these balls and for what purpose. However, it became clear that the balls had stopped doing before the invasion of the Spaniards into South America, and there is no written information about them.

In his report on the study of the balls of Costa Rica, archaeologist Doris Z. Stone wrote: "We must include the perfect spheres of Costa Rica to incomprehensible megalithic riddles." Alas, the scientist is right, at the moment any indisputable data shedding light on their authors and purpose are completely absent.

“We determine the age of the balls according to the style of production and the radiocarbon analysis of the objects that are found with the balls,” says John Hoopes, associate professor of anthropology at the University Of Kansas (USA). - One of the problems of this technique is that it reports the date of the last use of the balls, but not the date of their creation. These objects could be used for centuries and are still in the same places for thousands of years. Therefore, it is very difficult to determine the exact date of their creation. ”

Near the balls, archaeologists discovered shards of pottery, tools, some of the stone "globes" were installed on man-made embankments. Now using the dating of objects found near the balls, it was determined that they were made in the period from 1500 to 200 BC. However, such dating cannot be considered accurate and final, the balls could actually move at a later time, as they do now, therefore their age may well be much more ancient. There are hypotheses that the age of the balls may amount to hundreds of thousands and even millions of years.

If such an estimate of age in some cases is the fruit of fantastic conclusions, then the hypothesis of George Ericson and several other researchers is quite reasonable. Erickson estimates the age of the balls about 12 thousand years. A similar assumption is based on the fact that in the coastal area, stone balls were found under water. If they were in this place originally, then the balls were under water at least 10 thousand years ago, when the sea level rose.

According to a number of scientists, the most plausible are the assumptions that stone balls were symbols of social status or marked the boundaries of land. Perhaps their manufacture was an important ritual and was associated with the veneration of such luminaries as the sun and the moon.

As for the more fantastic hypotheses, there is no shortage of them.

For example, according to one of them, the stone spheres played the role of peculiar markings of the ancient alien space center. But according to the authors of the book "Atlantis in America: navigators of the ancient world" (1998) Aivar Zapp and George Erikson, the sphere was the navigation tools of a highly developed ancient race of navigators, which gave rise to the legend of Atlantis. Under the balloons, we even looked for capsules with messages from our alien brothers in mind, who in ancient times visited our planet.

Much about the purpose of the balls could tell their true location, but now in its original place there are only a few balls. However, if the balls are actually very ancient, then they could have been moved by seven hundred or even a thousand years ago. Therefore, to draw any conclusions on the basis of the location of the balls is very problematic. Most likely, the purpose of the stone spheres will remain a mystery.

FIRE AND SKILL

If until recently only lovers of mysteries and mysteries of the past knew about these artifacts, then after the film “Indiana Jones: In Search of the Lost Ark”, Costa Rica’s stone balls found out literally the whole world, because in this picture one of these “balls” was almost crushed Indiana Jones.

To date, more than 300 stone balls have been found in Costa Rica, with the largest weight reaching 16 tons. Many stone balls are made of granodiorite. It is believed that balls of this kind are not formed naturally. There are also several specimens of shell rock - a variety of limestone, consisting mainly of shells and their fragments.

How did the stone spheres be made? Archaeologists believe that the ancients picked up initially less round boulders, then subjected them to strong heating and cooling, which led to the fact that the upper layers of

the stone fell away like a bulbous husk. When this process led to a perfectly acceptable spherical workpiece, it was already processed with stone tools and polished. Proof of this processing scheme is the fact that many balls still keep traces of strong temperature drops.

The ancient masters managed to achieve a very high degree of accuracy. For example, balls with a diameter of about 1 meter had an error detected when measuring several diameters, from 2.5 to 5 cm. Balls of larger diameter were made even more accurately, sometimes measurements for several sections give almost the same values.

Iphigenia archaeologist Quintanillus managed to find granodiorite deposits in the Talamanca mountain range, which is about 50 miles from the cluster of balls. Boulders, which can be called unfinished specimens of stone spheres, were found at the rock outcrop site. It should be noted that the ancient masters had to tinker with the delivery of these blanks over rough marshland.

BALLS DISCUSSED "BY HAND"

Almost immediately after the discovery of the balls they began to move from place to place. By rail, by truck, the balls were delivered literally across the country. Some were in the National Museum, others in parks, gardens, in front of various official buildings of the capital of the country - San Jose, and others even decorated the lawns in front of the houses of various influential people.

Two stone balls were taken to the United States: one can be seen in the Museum of the National Geographic Society, and the other is exhibited in the courtyard of the Museum of Archeology and Ethnography of Peabody, Harvard University. It can be said that the balls went hand in hand, only a few of them remained in their former places.

Ghost town at the bottom of the sea

In 1362, the city of Rungholt, standing on the shores of the northern sea, flooded the waves of the sea. There are strange stories about this sunken city and its inhabitants. Where Rungholt was located is not known for sure. Archaeologists and enthusiasts local historians have long sought remnants of the legendary settlement near the island of Pelvorm.

In 1882, the German poet Detlev von Lilienkron, who was known at that time, became infected with this passion for a year and a half as headman of a rural district on Pellworm Island. Poet von Lilienkron summarized all the fragmentary stories about the sunken Rungholt and its restless ghosts, put it in poetic lines and embellished it with its imagination. It was this vivid poem about the city captured by the sea that finally formed the legend of the city gone to the bottom.

It is known that the mysterious Rungholt really existed. In the seventies of the 20th century, an old document was found in the State Archives in Hamburg, the content of which confirms the existence of the Rungecholt church parish. But in the administrative district of Edomshard, there was never a city with such a name. Historians believe that Rungholt was founded around 1200 on the banks of the channel, to the south-east of Pelworth. The population, about a thousand people, was mainly engaged in agriculture, in addition, there was a small harbor in Rungholt. It is unlikely that residents were swimming in luxury, and no special wealth is out of the question.

Perhaps, on ships in Rungholt delivered salt, which in the Middle Ages was a running and expensive product.

No signs of luxurious burials or other traces of the presence of

well-off citizens were found in the alleged area of Rungholt. There was no salt deposits there, only peatlands were around. Nevertheless, Rungholt, precisely because of the harbor, was perhaps of no small importance for all the inhabitants of Edomshardo County.

Rungholt residents did not expect trouble. For many years they built houses on bottom sediments in the place where the deep channel passed through the ice age. The base of the dried up bed settled down little by little and finally the waves of the North Sea poured into it. Despite the high dams, built with extraordinary diligence and hard work, people could not defend their habitable place from the raging elements. On January 16, 1362, the land on which they lived irreversibly disappeared under water.

Flood - God Kara

For what overtook the death of civilians? About this, people on the coast have different explanations. Connoisseurs of these places are whispering meaningfully among themselves: "All this is not without reason - God's punishment for terrible sins!"

In 1666, the author of the Northern Frontier Chronicle, Anton Heimrayh, described the flood in the North Frisia in embellished form. He got a true legend, with interesting details and additions, invented for almost three hundred years.

"Amidst all these flooded places," begins the story of Anton Heimreich, "Rungholt is especially remarkable ..." According to the author of the chronicle, the well-being of the district depended on this city, and the old-timers told a lot of miraculous things about it. Contemporaries of Haymreich knew many stories about the "underwater city".

“Once a priest was called to commune a sick person,” reports

Heimrayh. But when this pious man came in to the suffering man, he saw on the bed a healthy man, drunk as a pig - these blasphemers wanted to make fun of a virtuous Christian. In indignation, he hurried out, but he was not released. "Godless revelers" stopped him by force, took away the tin with prosphora for communion and poured beer there.

After such a reproach, the churchman began to cry out to the Lord so that God would punish sinners. Very little time passed, and a terrible wind blew from the sea, high waves rolled over the land. Sea depths swallowed all. Element did not spare anyone except the priest and two or, perhaps, four virgins.

In the second half of the seventeenth century, when Heimraich wrote his chronicle, the North Sea covered the coast near the former Edomsharda district with a thick layer of sediment. Even at that time very few remnants of the former settlements were found in the tidal area. In some places, such a thick layer of sand and silt has accumulated that the land again formed, where the waves did not reach. This time, the land plots went to people for a short time. After some time, the sea began to flood this land. The area of the island of Sudfalle, for example, has decreased three times over 130 years and is now 56 hectares. In a strong storm the whole island is completely under water.

GIFT FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA

It was in 1921, on the Day of the Holy Trinity, on a sunny spring day. The peasant Andreas Bush from the island of Northstrand rode in a wagon and drove through the flooded area. He already thought that he would have to turn back, because the horses were stuck on the belly in liquid sludge. The farmer with incredible efforts pulled the cart with the horses to a firm place.

What he saw later changed his whole future life. Directly in front

of him were sticking out of the water for 70 centimeters pile of drainage gateway regulator. A little further away, the lower part of the shipyard could be discerned, and arable lands were guessed. The sea subsided and exposed the remains of a medieval settlement near Südfall island. Andreas Bush immediately thought it was the legendary Rungholt.

Prior to this discovery, no one knew exactly where the place was, the fate of which still concerns the minds of the inhabitants of the Frisian Islands. On some of the old maps, Rungholt lay north of Südfall, and on others it is marked "rather" to the south of this island.

For years, Andreas Bush has been engaged in an in-depth search for Rhungholt's tracks and indulged in this activity with genuine enthusiasm. He patiently waited for low tide, examined, photographed, and made detailed maps of the area. For scientific merit - archaeological research at the site of the alleged Rungholt - self-taught Bush was awarded the University of Christian Albrecht in Kiel.

NEW CONTRIBUTION

The sad story of the “underwater city” would have ended there, if not the ethnologist Hans-Peter Durr. It all started with the fact that in the summer of 1992 Dürr, with his wife and children, spent the summer on the island of Northstrand. In the summer house he found a map drawn up in 1652 by cartographer Johannes Meyer from Husum (a city in the west of Schleswig-Holstein). The map was called "Outlines of Rungholt and its parishes. Year 1240. Durr recalled the famous poem of Lilienkron and decided to study the issue and independently examine the terrain, in particular, the section where Rungholt the cartographer of the mid-17th century painted.

In June 1994, a professor with a group of students at the University of Bremen arrived in Husum and went in search of historical artifacts.

Where Rungholt was lying on Meyer's map, Professor Dürr began excavations, hampered by the fact that the area was covered with water and a thick layer of muddy slush — there was virtually no land there.

Officials from the Archaeological Administration of Schleswig-Holstein are not enthusiastic about the initiative of the Bremen scientist. Durr's expeditions revived interest in the history of medieval Rungholt, and the ghostly riches of the flooded port city and the occasional discovery of Bush "inspire local treasure hunters to the exploits". However, Professor Durr is not so easy to stop. He wrote a book in which he summarized the results of his eleven-year work and compared them with a large number of meticulously collected historical information. The professor is sure that he not only found the authentic Rungholt, but also found evidence of the existence of a settlement at this place as far back as the Bronze Age. This settlement allegedly maintained trade relations with the cities of the Mediterranean, in particular, with the island of Crete. According to experts, this hypothesis has no basis.

Although Professor Dürr has finally undermined his authority in the eyes of archaeologists and historians, all lovers of local legends and beliefs should be grateful to him for maintaining the glory of the "underwater city".

The Pearl of the Lost World

It is well known that the "Dvorichie" is an area between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, where the most ancient centers of civilization originated and where Iraq is now located. But its biennium is in America. It is located in southeastern Mexico, in the state of Chiapas, occupying a mountainous, covered with a salmon plateau between two deep rivers - the Grihalva and Usumacinta. Even before our era, Indian Mayan tribes

lived here, creating many small kingdoms that were at war with each other.

Pearl of the Lost World One of the kingdoms was called Bakal. Around the 1st century BC his subjects began to build a city named Lakamha, which meant “High Water”.

The white-stone city gradually grew, not much different from similar cities in the neighboring kingdoms. But in 615, the 12-year-old Kinich-Hanab-Pacal I ascended to the throne of Bakal. At first he ruled under the regency of his mother, and from about 625 he became an absolute monarch.

Pacal achieved prosperity in the state, successfully led the war and became famous as the king-builder. When it was built hundreds of temples, palaces, public buildings, as well as aqueducts and roads ...

He was called Pacal the Great, the sacred ruler, and was revered almost like a god. The ruler died in. 683, having been on the throne for 68 years.

And then in the kingdom of Bakal began a series of unrest and upheaval. In the middle of the 9th century, people, for a mysterious reason, left the millennial kingdom. Deserted territory began to overgrow with selva ...

TEMPLE OF RECORDINGS

In the XVIII century, the conquistadors of Cortez passed literally next to the dead city, but even they did not notice the stone communities entwined with creeping vegetation. The conquerors were accompanied by missionary monks who, under the pretext of fighting paganism, set fire to written monuments of Mayan history and culture. It seemed a little more, and the very memory of the ancient kingdoms of

Mesoamerica would disappear forever.

At the end of the 18th century, the ruins of an abandoned, half-absorbed city were inspected by a Spanish captain, checking information received from a local priest, who, in turn, referred to the Indians.

By analogy with the nearest Indian settlement, a deserted city received the name Palenque. However, the report of the Spanish officer did not cause interest then.

Mexico experienced a turbulent period of wars, coups, and revolutions. Many more decades passed before the first travelers climbed the mysterious plateau, followed by scientists, archeologists, historians, and ethnographers. And yet for a long time the city of Palenque, about the true history of which at that time practically nothing was known, was of interest only to a rather narrow circle of professionals.

But in the summer of 1952, a scientist appeared here who gave mankind a worldwide sensation. It was the Mexican archaeologist Albert Rous Luille. He climbed the upper platform of the 9-step pyramid, where the Temple of Inscriptions stood, so named because its walls and even columns were covered with Mayan hieroglyphic inscriptions.

By that time, the scientific community believed that the Temple of the Inscriptions served only as an ancient sanctuary. Rus was the first who paid attention to the slab in one of the premises of the temple, the slab, on the sides of which were placed stone inserts - a kind of cork. By order of Rus, the workers took out these inserts, after which they managed to lift the plate itself.

Tsarsky Sarkofag

A passage opened, leading somewhere down, inside a giant 28-

meter pyramid. Almost to the very top, he was crammed with a mixture of large stones, rubble and earth. During the four field seasons, the expedition of Albert Roose was engaged in clearing the “hole”. It was a stone staircase with 66 steps, so narrow that it involuntarily gave the impression that the tunnel was falling vertically downwards. The staircase itself had a secret: it did not lead in a straight line, but did a zigzag in the form of a letter Z and led out to a camera located at the level of the base of the pyramid.

Here, in some similarities of the tombs, scientists found six skeletons and found that they belong to five young men and one girl, and from noble families. Everything indicated that they were victims of a certain ritual. A triangular plate was visible in the chamber wall. Having taken it out, archaeologists proceeded further.

Later, Rus recalled this: “From the thick darkness, in the light of a hand lamp, a fantastic picture of a fantastic, unearthly world suddenly appeared. It seemed like a magical grotto, carved in the ice. Its walls glittered and shimmered like snow crystals in the rays of the sun. Like the fringe of a huge curtain, graceful festoons of stalactites hung. And the stalagmites on the floor looked like drops of water on a gigantic ghost candle. The tomb was like an abandoned temple. Sculptured figures from alabaster walked along its walls. Then my gaze fell to the floor. It was almost completely covered by a huge, perfectly preserved stone slab with embossed images. ”

The five-ton plate was lifted with the help of car jacks and logs. Having overcome a number of obstacles, scientists opened the sarcophagus.

There, against the backdrop of bright purple paint and a whole placer of green-blue jade jewelry, the well-preserved human skeleton turned yellow. This was the last refuge of the ruler Pakal! His face was

covered with a mosaic jade mask with eyes of mother of pearl shells and pupils of obsidian. This mask, being an exact portrait of the deceased, brought to the researchers the appearance of the Mayan king through 13 centuries!

The whole stone sarcophagus, according to the calculations of archaeologists, weighed more than 20 tons.

It was unthinkable to pull such a colossus up the steep stairs. And this meant that the first tomb was built, and only then a pyramid and a temple were erected over it. By its uniqueness, this burial is comparable only with the tomb of Pharaoh Cheops in the Egyptian Great Pyramid. After the funeral, the stairs were covered with a mixture of stones and earth, which forever blocked the way for lovers of easy money.

And to communicate with the spirit of the deceased, a long stone pipe was arranged, curved in the form of a snake figure, which stretched from the crypt to the temple.

The riddle, however, lurked in the fact that the skeleton belonged to a strong and tall man at the age of 40-50 years, Pacal died at the age of 81.

Nevertheless, the scientific community has recognized that it is Pacal that lies beneath the Temple of the Inscriptions!

ROCKETOPAN OR PATTERNS?

However, the hottest disputes that have not subsided to the present day, caused the image on the lid of the Mayan king sarcophagus. In the center of an extremely rich, full symbolism of the carved composition, a man full of strength is depicted. Leaning back, he settled on some kind of bed, the base of which serves as a creepy monster mask. But the man

is as if not disturbed by the presence of evil power; his gaze is directed upwards, to where a serpent about two heads wriggles on the crossbar of a strange cross. From the jaws of these heads, men in masks of the rain god look out.

The archaeologist-discoverer found in this composition an association with the god of maize, who, according to Mayan beliefs, died annually, but always revived.

A completely different point of view was expressed by the Swiss writer and archaeologist Erich von Daniken, according to the script of which the well-known documentary “Memories of the Future” was made.

He came to the conclusion that the figure in the bas-relief “is an exact copy of the astronaut sitting at the control panel of the spacecraft. He keeps one foot on the pedal and looks at the devices in front of him. Exhaust emissions are visible from the tail end of the ship. ”

In the course of time, both the “earthly” and the “cosmic” versions have both hottest supporters and violent opponents. Among the adherents of the “cosmic” version there are not only science fiction writers and ufologists, but also quite a few serious scientists. More recently, American aircraft designer J. Sanderson laid a reproduction of a controversial pattern in a computer, and he transformed the flat image into three-dimensional. The result was a spacecraft cabin with a control panel and a propulsion system.

In response, historians of a conservative orientation call the details of the “spacecraft” merely typical Mayan patterns. However, the "earth" version has a number of original variations.

Alberto Rus himself, who did not consider Tsar Pakal to be an astronaut, said, referring to the growth and a number of other features of

the deceased ruler, that “this character” could have come not from Maya. Soon the hypothesis of the transatlantic voyages of the navigators of the ancient Mediterranean arose, which brought “wild” Indians a high culture, became the ancestors of the royal dynasties and taught the Mayans to build pyramids.

In 1994, in one of the buildings adjoining the Temple of Inscriptions, in the so-called Temple XIII, a second similar burial was discovered, with exactly the same sarcophagus.

The find was called the “tomb of the “red queen ”because the female skeleton inside the sarcophagus was literally filled with cinnabar. It is believed that Pacal's wife, who died before him, is buried here.

Obviously, other discoveries await us, because of the many hundreds of buildings in the ancient city, to date, almost one-tenth of them are truly explored.

China history

The history of China begins with the times of the legendary ruler Fu Xi, who lived 30-40 centuries before the beginning of our era. Supposedly the gods inspired him to write the sacred book of Ancient China "I Ching", from which flowed the theory that the physical Universe originated and develops thanks to the alternation of yin and yang. Fu-Xi is also considered the mythological founding father and the most revered ancient ruler of China.

If, however, mythological characters are not taken into account, as far as official written historical sources are concerned, they do not mention any rulers of China who preceded the Shang dynasty (1766-1122 BC). It is with the rulers of the Shang dynasty that the authentic,

written, confirmed history of China begins.

Brief History of China

The Shang rulers were overthrown by the Zhou dynasty, which first built its capital near modern Xi'an, and later, around 750 BC. e., fled from the barbarians who invaded the country and settled near the current Liaoyang. In the early period of the dynasty, power was concentrated in the hands of the emperor, but later local rulers formed almost independent states. Since 770 BC. e. these rulers waged fierce wars with each other, and the whole period from 476 to 221 years. BC e. got the name "Fighting kingdoms". At the same time, China was attacked by barbarians from the north and northeast. Then it was decided to build huge walls to protect the territory. In the end, the main power was concentrated in the hands of Prince Qin, whose army overthrew the ruler Zhou.

The new emperor Qin Shi-Huang Di became the founder of the Qin dynasty in 221 BC. e. He was one of the most illustrious emperors in the history of China and the first to unify the Chinese empire. After the death of Emperor Qin Shi Huang Di in 210 g. e. there was a power struggle between the provincial governors, and the winner, Liu Bang, founded the Han dynasty (206 BC - 220 AD). Under the Han dynasty, the territory of China expanded significantly. After the fall of the Han dynasty, 3 kingdoms unfolded in the struggle for power - Wei, Shu, and W. After a short time, 16 provinces entered the war. In 581 BC the founder of the Sui dynasty seized power and made efforts to unify the empire. Work began with the Grand Canal connecting the lower Yangtze River with the Middle Current of the Yellow River.

After the fall of the Sui Dynasty, in the Tang era, the history of China reached its peak. It was during this period that China became the most powerful state in the world and represented the main force in East

Asia. The population of Xi'an, the capital of the empire, exceeded 1 million people, culture flourished: classical painting developed, arts such as music, dance and opera, magnificent ceramic products were made, the secret of white translucent porcelain was discovered. Dominated by Confucian ethics and Buddhism, progress was observed in science - mainly in astronomy and geography.

Toward the end of the ninth century. invasions of neighboring nations began in China, moreover, internal uprisings constantly flared up. In 907 the dynasty ceased to exist and was quickly replaced by five others. During this turbulent period of Chinese history, paper banknotes were introduced and a primitive printing press was invented. At the beginning of the XIII century. Chinggiskhan invaded China. By 1223, his troops seized all the lands north of the Yellow River. The Song Dynasty ceased to exist in 1279, when Kubilai took over all of China and became emperor.

The Mongol dynasty Yuan established the capital of the state in Khanbalik, present-day Beijing. For the first time in history, China was ruled by foreigners, and the state became part of a vast empire that stretched to Europe and Persia in the west and encompassed the plains and steppes of Siberia in the north. The presence of foreign warriors on the lands of China and the capture of usable lands by the Mongols eventually led to the “uprising of the red dressings” in the middle of the XIV century. The Mongol Empire began to crumble after Kublai's death in 1297, and the trade routes again became unsafe. Somewhat later, the Mongols were driven out of China, and the Ming dynasty reigned, first in Nanking, and then in Beijing. At this time, architecture was actively developed, new crops were grown, power was concentrated at the court, large sea expeditions were sent to Java, Sri Lanka and even to the Persian Gulf and Africa.

The Manchus were the second alien people who seized China, but

they so quickly adapted to Chinese culture that in a few generations few of the Manchus spoke their native language. The borders of the empire expanded significantly, the first 150 years of the Manchu rule in the country were peace and prosperity. At the beginning of the XIX century European ships began to increasingly appear off the coast, tsarist Russia took possession of Siberia. Due to the “opium wars” (1839–1842), Shanghai and Nanjing were taken over by the British, five ports were opened for trade, and British troops occupied Hong Kong.

In addition, the Taiping uprising (1848–1864) under the leadership of a religious fanatic, who called himself the brother of Jesus Christ, was a threat to the Manchu court. He and his followers seized a large territory of China and established the Heavenly Capital in Nanjing. Attempts by the rebels to take possession of Beijing and the weak resistance of the Manchus prompted the British and French to seek from the emperor new concessions. The result was the Beijing Agreement, under which additional ports were opened for foreign traders, guaranteed extraterritorial rights and other privileges to foreigners in China. The Allied forces and the Manchu army defeated the Taiping, Nanjing was conquered. But soon the war of China against Japan began (1894–1895), as a result of which China lost Korea, Taiwan and the Pescador Islands.

In 1900, the Society of Fair Kulaks, or Boxers, invaded Beijing and attacked the quarter where foreigners lived. The siege lasted 50 days, until the expeditionary forces of seven western states and Japan arrived. "Boxers" had to run. The revolutionary movement in China eventually led to the fall of the Qing dynasty in 1911. At this time, the revolutionaries in Nanjing created their own government. Sun Yatsenbsh was proclaimed the first president on January 1, 1912, but not he, but General Yuan Shikai forced the Manchus to abdicate the throne in 1912 and proclaimed China a constitutional republic.

The capital of the state was declared Beijing. In the same year, Sun

Yat-sen formed the Kuomintang party, which Yuan Shikai declared outlawed in 1913. Yuan tried to become emperor, but his attempt failed. After his death in 1916, Japan took advantage of internal unrest in China to seize Shandong Province, and put forward the so-called "twenty-one claim", according to which power in China passed into the hands of the Japanese. China was forced to agree to these demands, and since then this day is considered the day of national mourning.

In 1917, China entered the First World War, primarily driven by the desire to win back the lost provinces, but at the Versailles Peace Conference, China's claims were rejected. In July 1921, the Chinese Communist Party was formed in Shanghai, one of whose leaders was Mao Zedong. In 1924, the Kuomintang party, having lost the support of Western democracies, was re-formed by Sun Yat-sen under the leadership of the Soviet government. With the support of the Russian Communists, a revolutionary army was formed.

Sun Yat-sen died in 1925, and the national government of Guangzhou Province led Chiang Kai-shek. Nationalist troops marched north, seizing province after province, and in 1927 reached Shanghai. In April 1927, after the massacre of members of the Communist Party, a temporary nationalist government was created in Nanking, which the Western powers recognized in 1928. Chiang Kai-shek became President of the country. For nearly 10 years, Chiang Kai-shek tried to restore political unity across the country, but he faced strong opposition. In 1931, Japan captured Manchuria, and by 1933, the troops approached the outskirts of Beijing.

By 1935, Mao Zedong declared himself the leader of the Chinese Communist Party. Within half a year, a full-scale invasion of Chinese troops into China began, and by October 1938, the Japanese army controlled all the eastern provinces from Manchuria to Guandong. Puppet governments were created in Beijing and Nanking. The

Kuomintang troops retreated to Chongqing, the Communists occupied the province of Shaanxi, leading a guerrilla war in the occupied territories.

In 1945, after the defeat of the Japanese army in the Pacific region, Japanese forces in China capitulated. The army of Chiang Kai-shek, with the help of the US Air Force, captured the remnants of the Japanese troops and thereby gained control over the main strategic points of the territory occupied by the Japanese. In 1949, a civil war broke out in China. Resorting to the same tactic of the partisan war, which they seized during the occupation, by 1948 the communists had seized almost all the northern lands, and in January 1949 they took Beijing. Chiang Kai-shek's troops fled to Taiwan.

October 1, 1949 Mao Zedong proclaimed the formation of the People's Republic of China. The first actions of the new government were aimed at restoring the economy and creating socialist institutions. The Chinese were assisted by the Soviet Union in accordance with the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Pact concluded in February 1950. Soviet specialists arrived in the country, and China received the equipment necessary for economic recovery. In October 1950, China entered the Korean War. At the same time, agrarian reforms were introduced in the country to ensure a more equitable distribution of land, but they were accompanied by executions of former landowners and wealthy peasants. In addition, measures were taken against political and economic corruption.

In 1953, the first five-year plan was adopted, an attempt to develop the Chinese economy according to the Soviet model, which focused on the development of heavy industry. The land given to the peasants under the land reform was taken back in the process of creating collective farms. In the 60s, the gap between China and the USSR began. All Soviet specialists were recalled, assistance programs stopped. In 1962,

the authorities were forced to transform the communes into more efficient small farms. In the same year, clashes on the border with India resulted in a war. Two years later, an atomic bomb exploded in China.

In 1966, the hunveibin movement began, covering the whole of China. When in 1968 the uprising was pacified, Mao was in power again. In 1969, there were serious clashes between the border forces of China and the USSR on the Ussuri River. In 1971, Mao’s successor, Lin Biao, tried to enlist the support of the army and carry out a coup, but was defeated and was killed on the border with Mongolia while trying to escape in the USSR. A year later, US President R. Nixon visited China to conclude a communiqué, in which the US recognized China’s right to Taiwan as an integral part of the country.

In 1976, Prime Minister Zhou Enlai died, and after a short time, the radical circles of the party launched a stormy campaign against his likely successor, Deng Xiaoping, who was removed from all posts in April. In July, China suffered from the strongest earthquake in Tianshan, near Beijing, which killed at least 240,000 people and caused enormous damage to one of the country's major industrial zones. In September, Mao died.

In 1977, Deng Xiaoping was reinstated in all posts and led a faction of moderates trying to move through economic development and reform. China began work on the “four modernizations” program, which was to strengthen industry, agriculture, science and defense. In 1980, there was criticism of the actions of Mao Zedong and his serious mistakes in the last years of his rule. On June 3, 1989, troops were abandoned to disperse student demonstrations. Hundreds of people died, thousands were arrested. Zhao Ziyang was removed from his post as general secretary. In 1994, official control over currency exchange was abolished in China, and the yuan gained a firm exchange rate.

Ziggurats. Tower of Babel

The most ancient post-populated civilization was Between Rivers. Interestingly, the Bible, which contains the richest information about many kingdoms, first tells about Babylon, giving it a large place in both historical and prophetic aspects. As it appears from the Holy Scriptures and the most ancient chronicles, the very first steps in the formation of Mesopotamian statehood were inextricably linked with religion, which was based on an open challenge to the true God, which was most clearly manifested in the construction of the famous Tower of Babel.

Today, no one doubts its existence, which has been proven by historians and archaeologists. But before we turn to history, architecture in the religious meaning of its construction, let us pay attention to the creation of special temples-ziggurats, to which the famous tower belonged. So, the ziggurat was a huge building, consisting of several towers (usually from 4 to 7), located one on one, in proportion to decreasing upwards. Between the top of the lower tower and the base above the lying terrace were terraces with beautiful gardens.

At the top of the whole building stood the sanctuary, to which led a

huge staircase, starting at the bottom and having several side branches. This upper church was dedicated to any deity who was considered the patron saint of this city. The towers themselves were painted in different colors: the lower, as a rule, was black, the second - red, higher - white, even higher - blue, etc. The upper tower was often crowned with a golden dome, which was visible for many kilometers from the city . From a distance, this spectacle was truly fabulous.

However, the ziggurat was something more than just a temple, it was the link between heaven and earth, as well as the place where God himself was supposedly, declaring to people his will through priests. But if during the day the ziggurat was a temple, then at night it was a place of astrological acts, as well as a place of departure for black satanic rites. We will never fully know all the details of the administration of these services, but even the information that clay tablets tell us is horrifying. It was in the upper temples that astrology was created, connecting people with the abyss. During the excavations it was established that the name of its founder - Saaben-ben-Aares, however, the true creator of this pseudoscience was, of course, the prince of darkness.

Such ziggurats were built in Nippur (about 2100 B.C. Khr. King of Ur-Nammu), now located 40 miles west of the Euphrates; in Uruk, 12 miles from the Euphrates, 988 acres; to Eridu, erected almost immediately after the flood and renewed many times throughout history, forming 12 temples, one above the other; Ur - built by the king of Ur-Namm in honor of the god of the moon Nunn, and very well preserved to our time, etc. But the ziggurat built in Babylon, at the dawn of the posthumous history, is described in the Bible. “There was one tongue and one tongue in all the earth.

Moving from the east, people found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. And they said to a friend: we shall make bricks and burn them with fire. And they had bricks instead of stones, and earthen

resin instead of lime. And they said: We will build for ourselves a city and a tower, which is as high as heaven; and let us make a name for ourselves before we scatter over the face of the whole earth ”(Gen. 11: 1-4). The terrible punishment that befell mankind, who decided to go their own way, independent of God and against His will (the flood), was forgotten. People again chose to live and act without God in order to satisfy their vanity and pride. God could not approve of their proud and insane plan, and, by mixing languages, prevented the execution of human plans.

However, not wanting to humble themselves before the Creator, people again soon began to build a ziggurat in the same place where it was stopped by God Himself. Jesus Christ never produces violence against human free will, and therefore He did not interfere with this insane plan of the people, wanting them and their descendants to see what their open and stubborn disobedience to Heavenly Father would bring. With pain, Christ gazed at how people stubbornly constructed a tower, which was to become the center of worship for false gods, in other words, they built a scaffold for themselves.

For the religion that they so defended and implanted had to lead them to degradation and death. But the arrogant builders, who were intoxicated by the prince of darkness, did not think about it, and finally built a magnificent building that amazed people with beauty and scope for 1500 years. The Babylonian ziggurat, rebuilt dozens of times over a specified time, was called Etemenanka, that is, the Temple of the cornerstone of Heaven and Earth, being the center of the temple city of Esagila (House of the Head Raising) colossal in size, surrounded by walls and towers, including many temples and palaces. Esagila was the seat of the chief Babylonian priest, who was at the same time the high priest of the whole world priesthood (this will be discussed below). Descriptions of this tower of the famous Greek historian Herodotus and the personal physician of the Medo-Persian king Artaxerxes II - Ctesias

have reached our time.

The tower described by them was restored at Nabopolassar (625-605 BC.) And Nebuchadnezzar II (605-562 BC.) After a period of decline. Restoring the tower, Nebuchadnezzar said: "I put my hand to finish building the top of Etemenanki so that she could argue with the sky." So, the tower built by them consisted of seven steps - floors. The first floor, 33 meters high, was black and was called the lower temple of Marduk (the supreme god Babylon), in the center of which stood a statue of the god, completely cast from the purest gold and weighed 23,700 kilograms!

In the temple stood, in addition, a golden table 16 meters long and 5 meters wide, a golden bench and a throne. In front of the statue of Marduk, daily sacrifices were made. The second floor in red was 18 meters high; the third, fourth, fifth and sixth - 6 meters in height and were painted in various bright colors. The last seventh floor was called the upper temple of Marduk, it was 15 meters high and was faced with turquoise glazed tiles decorated with golden horns. The upper church was visible many kilometers from the city and in the light of the sun was an extraordinary beauty. In this temple there was a bed, an armchair and a table, supposedly intended for God himself, when he came here to rest. There was also a "sacred" marriage of the king and priestess, all this was accompanied by an orgy, concluded in the "sublime" philosophy. Today, ziggurats lie in ruins, and many are not preserved at all, but the ideas of their builders continue to live today.

So, firstly, the construction of the ziggurat wore, as we have said, the nature of an open challenge to divine authority. Even the name Etemenanka challenges Christ by arrogating to himself His title, for the Scripture says: “... here I suppose in Zion is a cornerstone, chosen, precious: and he who believes in Him will not be ashamed” (1 Peter 2: 6). This example was followed by many peoples of the earth,

constructing pagan temples and temple complexes leaving into the clouds. Recently, the construction of the 1930s, begun under Stalin (but not completed!), Is the Palace of Congresses, which should have been crowned with a Lenin figure of such a size that, according to the architects, two libraries and a cinema would be located in one finger . This palace was supposed to become a symbol of militant atheism, supposedly defeating “outdated” Christianity, but the leader, of course, had to appear before the world as the “winner” of Christ! The fate of this idea and the construction started are known. But also unfulfilled, this project is on a par with the Tower of Babel, the Temple of Artemis of Ephesus and other "witnesses" who warn us, people of the end of the 20th century, about the danger of a way apart from God.

Secondly, the construction of ziggurats was a symbol of human power, the glorification of the human mind. And again, reading the pages of history, we see attempts to glorify and glorify his name at different times and from different rulers - kings, emperors, prime ministers, presidents, general secretaries, philosophers, scientists and artists, etc. An endless list of names that can continue and continue - Cyrus, Nebuchadnezzar, Macedonian, Octavian-Augustus, Nero, Traian, Charles V German, Napoleon, Lenin, Hitler, Stalin; the philosophers Rousseau, Voltaire, Montesquieu, who idolized the human mind and who prepared the Great French Revolution with their ideas; Darwin with his theory of evolution, the ideologists of fascism and communism, who also tried to build a paradise on earth at the cost of millions of victims without God. Here, dear reader, we can be with you, if in our life we rely on our Self, exalt ourselves, not Jesus Christ.

Thirdly, the construction of ziggurats showed that a person can himself reach the sky, become like God, for the tower connected heaven and earth in the representation of people. This idea is extremely tenacious, for even today many confessions assert that a person can achieve salvation and eternal life by his own efforts with his deeds and

performing certain rites.

Fourth, the ministry of the priests in the ziggurat showed that between heaven and earth there is a need for an intermediary capable of appeasing the fearsome god. It is from here that the teachings about holy mediators between God and people, about clerics as intercessors before God, originate. However, all these statements contradict the Bible, which states: “For there is one God, one and a mediator between God and men ... Christ Jesus” (1 Tim. 2: 5).

Fifthly, the ziggurat was the center of astrology, magic, occultism, which found tremendous, growing popularity in our time. We will talk about them in detail in another part of this book, and now we’ll only note the main thing: the very idea underlying astrology, namely the prediction of fate and the ways of influencing it, negates faith in God.

Sixth, the luxurious architecture of the tower and the majestic mysterious, incomprehensible to ordinary people service, sent to the temple, were intended to fascinate and subdue the feelings and mind of a person, paralyze his will, deprive him of his freedom of reasonable choice. The same technique was later used by almost all world religions in the construction of huge cathedrals with rich frescoes, statues, paintings, many hours of tedious services, often in languages that most people did not understand.

How it differs from the ministry, the example of which was given by Jesus Christ during His earthly life, spent in nature, in modest homes! So, as we see, the ideas of the ancient ziggurats continue to live today. It is not for nothing that in the Bible, one of the prophecies of which we partially led to this chapter in the epigraph, the apostate forces are called Babylon.

Assyrian state

From III thousand on the Middle Tigre there was a nominal state of Ashur, founded by a special one, separated from the others and settled here, in a foreign ethnic environment, approx. 3000 a group of Akkadians worshiping the eponymous tribal god Ashshur. In the XXI century. Ashur was a member of the power of the 3rd dynasty of Ur, then the Hurritan princes occupied him and rebuilt (from that moment the Assyrians counted the beginning of their statehood), and ca. 1970 power passed into the hands of the dynasty of the Ashurts. From this time on, for six centuries, Ashur remained a “nominal” state, periodically subordinate to the neighboring great powers and headed by the “governor” of Ishshiakkum (Akkadian form of Sumerian “Ensi”) - the supreme representative of the Ashshurt community, who had not yet risen above it. In science, the “Old-Assyrian” (20th-16th centuries), “Middle-Assyrian” (15-11th centuries) and “New-Assyrian” (10-7th centuries) periods are distinguished, mainly in accordance with the stages of the development of the Assyrian dialect.

In the XX century. The Ashur rulers laid a way to the west, to Asia Minor, where in the 19th century, the military trading expeditions paved the way. a network of trade colonies founded by Ashurfur with the center in Kanisha flourishes. International trade unheard of enriching Achshchur, which lies at the crossroads of trade routes, and attracted the attention of the conquerors. At the end of the XIX century Ashur was captured by the Amorite leader Shamshi-Adad, who turned him into the specific center of his Upper Mesopotamian power, in 1757, under the son of Shamshi-Adad Ishme-Dagan, Ashshur was annexed by Hammurabi, and around 1740, during the turbulent times the cassations invaded Mesopotamia, regained its independence under the rule of a descendant Shamshi-Adad. The Shamshi-Adad family soon gave way to other dynasties, but the time of his reign was forever recognized in Ashshur as a brilliant page of his own history, and even the ancestors of Shamshi-

Adad later became included in the Assyrian royal list.

In the first half of the XV century Ashur, who feared the power of the neighboring state of the Upper Mesopotamian Hurrians - Mitanni - establishes diplomatic contacts with Thuthmos III, who is waging a fierce war with Mitanni. In response, in the middle of the XV century Mitanni king Saussadattar ransacked Ashur and forced him to recognize dependence on Mitanni. At the beginning of the XIV century Ashur got rid of the Mitanni rule at the cost of Babylonian recognition, and then rejected him, and Ashshur ruler Ashshuruballit I (1353-1318) wrote to Pharaoh Akhenaten, already calling himself a “king” (although he didn’t name himself in the country). Ashuruballit was destined to turn the nominal state of Ashur into the mighty territorial kingdom of Assyria, which was a real geopolitical coup (third quarter of the 14th century).

Taking advantage of the sharp weakening of Mitanni due to unsuccessful wars with the Hittite king Supppilulium and dynastic unrest, Ashshuruballit intervened in the affairs of the Mitanni and became their senior ally. When Suppilulium sent the Hittite troops to Mitanni, Ashshuruballit came out against them, and despite the temporary successes of the Hittites, who had driven him and his Mitanni allies to the east, after the death of Suppillulium he drove the Hittites from Upper Mesopotamia and went to Euphrates.

As a result, the eastern regions of Mitanni, including the largest cult center Nineveh (Ishtar was worshiped here), Ashuruballit retained and annexed, and Mitanni itself and even Babylonia at one time were controlled by his troops. Assyria has evolved from a city-state into a great military power, which was destined to exist for about 700 years, terrorizing all its neighbors. The formation of the state was completed under Adadnerari I (1295-1264), which finally turned the power of the Assyrian ruler into the royal one, standing over the Ashur civilian community: Adadnerari was the first to formally title the king and claim

the status of a “great king” equal to the kings of the great powers of Front Asia.

His successors Salmanasar I (1263-1234), who destroyed and annexed the remnant of Mitanni, and especially Tukulti-Ninurta I (1233-1197), are already trying to achieve actual primacy among all the great powers. The history of Assyria of this, the first time of its great-power (second half of the XIV-XIII centuries) - this time almost continuous wars against the Hittites in the west and the Babylonians in the south, with varying success; Assyrians repeatedly increase the scale of strikes, but sometimes they themselves endure ever more severe defeats. In the XIII - early XII century. Assyrians annex four times and four times lose the neighboring territories of Upper Mesopotamia. On both fronts, their successes brought Tukulti-Ninurta to the apogee, who raided Hittite Syria and temporarily annexed all of Babylonia. Having decided, in the wake of these successes, to completely free himself from the need to reckon with the leaders of the civil society of Ashurites, he built instead of Ashur new, military-service capital Kar-Tuqulti-Ninurta. However, by the end of his reign, the Hittites and Babylonia deprived Assyria of most of its conquests, and then the Ashursk elite overthrew and killed him.

In the XII century. Assyria is experiencing a period of decline, struggling with approx. 1165 by the Balkan tribes of the "flies" that had just destroyed the Hittite kingdom, also with the Elam invasions. At the turn of the XII - XI centuries. Assyria unexpectedly experiences a new take-off under Tiglatpalasar I (1114-1076), which conquered vast territories from the Chorokh and the sources of the Kura to Babylon, Phenicia and the fragments of the Hittite kingdom in Southeast Asia Minor (inclusive).

Already at this time formed the main features of the Assyrian military power. These were:

- duality in the position of the kings: the powerful civil community of the indigenous Assyrians retained self-government and had not much less powerful authority than the king himself, unable to do without its resources and support for the time being. The tsar's rather limited power over the indigenous Assyrian cities with full power over the conquered territories encouraged the kings to build new, serving capitals, breaking away from the Ashurish community (however, Ashshur always retained the significance of the sacred capital of power), and then transfer the main support of his power from the Assyrian root to the serving mass, detached from any communal traditions, gained including, if not mainly, from the conquered territories. This strengthened the royal power, but eventually led to the formation of a “denationalized” self-sufficient state, divorced from its root base and thus weak.

- The Assyrian power in the first centuries of its existence was the fruit of an attempt by a single civil community and the royal military service yard formed under it to seize power over the whole of Western Asia. The inadmissibility of this task, compared with the limited resources of the aboriginal Assyria, forced the kings to compensate for this weakness by the extreme tension of military activities and the intimidation of their neighbors, but did not allow them to firmly master the conquered areas; therefore, Assyria is characterized by continuous military expansion, multiple conquests of the same territories, and the struggle against equally continuous uprisings of the conquered peoples;

- hence the unprecedented cruelty of the Assyrians during conquests and punitive campaigns (in particular, mass destruction and executions were used, and from the VIII century the so-called "uprooting" policy - deportation of huge masses of the population to remote areas of the country);

- The empire existed in the characteristic "pulsating" rhythm: the reign of each king usually began with the suppression of insurgency

caused by the death of his predecessor. Then he tried to make new conquests. With the death of the king, part of the lands attached to him immediately fell away, and everything repeated again. In general, the scale of the Assyrian conquests was slowly but steadily expanding;

- there was a special ideology of the “holy war”, according to which the wars of Assyrian kings are undertaken on the orders and for the glory of Ashur, the patron god of the city and kingdom (which reflected the exceptional role of the Temple of Ashur in the functioning of Assyrian statehood).

As a result, the history of Assyria is a cycle of military upsurge and decline. Three times (the beginning of the XII century, the beginning of the X century, the first half of the VIII century BC) Assyria loses most of the occupied territories and returns them again, each time increasing the scale of expansion.

In the second quarter of the XI century. hordes of nomadic Arameans moved from the Syrian steppe and southern Syria to Mesopotamia and the neighboring countries; OK. 1000 they broke through the Euphrates, dropping Assyria into its original cities. The state came to an extreme decline, from which Adadnerari II (911-891), which broke the Upper Mesopotamian Arameans, led it out. When Ashurnatsirapal II (883-859, even by Assyrian standards, he fought unusually fiercely, and his typical boast was: "I took the city, killed many soldiers, seized everything that could be captured, cut off the heads of the fighters, folded the tower in front of the city heads and bodies, folded the tower of living people, put people alive on pins around the city, burned them on fires ”), Salmanasar III (858-824 g .; Salmanasar in 853 brought out 120 in the battle of Karkar in Syria thousand people - an army unprecedented for that time - but, however, did not achieve success) and Adadnerari III (810-783 d., at the beginning of the rule under the care of the mother, the famous Sammuramat-Semiramis)

Assyria, firmly annexing the whole of Upper Mesopotamia, spread its military campaigns and temporary political control in South-East Asia, Eastern Mediterranean, southern regions of the Armenian Highlands, Babylonia and western regions of Iran right up to the Caspian Sea, but nowhere could firmly establish itself, and the confrontation between the king and the root of Assyria once led to a severe civil war. In the first half of the eighth century. Assyria loses all its possessions, except Upper Mesopotamia, under the blows of Urartu.

A new usurpion of Assyria was initiated by the usurper-warlord Tiglatpalasar III (745-727 BCE), who carried out a number of important reforms to strengthen royal power (unbundling governorships, creating a huge standing army on the maintenance of the treasury, refusing to attract militia, introducing policies deportations - “uprooting”). The army was completely transformed - armed with iron weapons, the chariots were replaced by cavalry, special services appeared - sapper and reconnaissance. Tiglatpalasar III almost completely transferred the support of the royal power to the denationalized military service mass (mainly Aramaic) from the indigenous Assyrian cities.

At first, this gave the kings unprecedented power and allowed them to begin a new series of conquests: in 743-735, Tiglatpalasar defeated Urartu and its allies in Syria and Southeast Asia Minor, subordinating the last regions and tearing off a strip of land from Urartu in the south of the Armenian Highlands, then he conquered the entire Eastern Mediterranean, and in 729 conquered Babylonia and annexed it to Assyria as a personal union. He made major conquests in Media, in Western Iran. From the time of Tiglatpalasara, the conquered areas are increasingly passing under the direct authority of Assyria, including in its provinces, although vassals remain on the periphery. His successors tried to keep the falling away areas, to expand the power and then push the privileged indigenous cities (where the temples were the main force), then reconcile with them.

Salmanasar V (727-722 BC) stifled the rebellion of the kingdom of Israel and annexed it, besieging Samaria. The usurper Sargon II (722-705 BC) took Samaria, and later waged wars in the mountainous north, against Midas of Phrygia at the boundaries of Southeast Asia Minor and against Rus I in Urartu (in 714 BC). He suddenly invaded Urartu, defeated him and plundered the sanctuary of the Urartu god Haldi in Mutsatsir (Upper Zaba), and in the east, significantly expanding Assyrian possessions in Medes and organizing several provinces there, and in the south against revolting Babylonians and allied ones Elama. He died in the struggle with the Phrygians in the Taurus Mountains. Sargon built a new royal residence Dur-Sharrukin ("The Fortress of Sargon"), and his descendants - Sargonida - ruled Assyria until her death.

Sinaherib (705-681), a fierce king-soldier, moved the capital to Nineveh. He lost almost the entire South-East of Asia Minor, but was able to crush the resistance of the Jews and defeat Egypt, trying to support it (701), and spent most of his reign in the war with rebellious Babylon and his Elamian allies. In 691, he defeated them at the Battle of Halul, leaving a colorful and rough description of their defeat in the inscriptions, and after the siege of 689-688, he took and completely destroyed Babylon himself, completely annexing Lower Mesopotamia.

In 681 he was assassinated by conspirators, and his successor was Asarhaddon (680-669 BC.). However, this ruler was able to overcome the obstacle with the help of priests. His reign Asarhaddon restored Babylon and Babylonia as a special kingdom, located in union with Assyria. Esarhaddon was forced to face the Iranian-speaking nomads who invaded West Asia — the Cimmerians and the Scythians; in 679, he repelled the invasion of the Cimmerians in the north-west, and ca. 675 - 672 coped with the crisis caused by the emergence of the Scythians in northwestern Iran (where, in connection with this, Assia was postponed from Assyria), concluding with the Scythians who created their kingdom

in Iran, which became the main factor in the protection of the Assyrian borders in the North. In 671 he conquered Egypt and subjugated the Assyrians to the North Arab tribes.

His successor, Ashshurbanipal (668-627; in Babylonia, his brother Shamashumukin, under the will of Esarhaddon) sat with him in the 660s. achieved the spread of the supreme power of Assyria to the south and west of Asia Minor (Lydia and Frigi— "Mushka" recognized Assyrian power out of fear of the Cimmerians), Media and Primur Manna in Iran, and in 663 finally drove the Ethiopians from Egypt, defeating Thebes. However, then the line of failures came on: in 655-654. Egypt and the recent acquisitions in Asia Minor were set aside, in 653 the Medes rebelled and attacked Nineveh, from which Assyria escaped, only calling for help from the Scythians (they broke the Medes and temporarily subordinated them to their control), and in 652-648, Ashshurbanapal forced was to fight against the rebellious Shamashshumukin against him, his ally Elam, the Arab kings and the postponed rulers of Palestine and Phenicia.

With the greatest exertion of strength, Assyria defeated all its enemies; Babylon fell in 648 (his throne passed to Ashshurbanapu himself), in 644-643 the Assyrians annexed Elam and achieved recognition of their authority from Urartu, Lydia and Persia. Assyria has reached the greatest territorial stretch, but now its power rested largely on an alliance with the Scythians. When those in the 630s suddenly attacked Assyria, they were broken; the Scythians plundered the western part of the Assyrian possessions right up to the borders of Egypt, and Assyria lost all possessions to the west of the Euphrates. The defeat caused distemper in Assyria (in particular, Ashurbanfal was removed from the supreme power, and only the youngest Babylonian throne was left to him), during which in 626 BC Babylonia, headed by the Chaldean prince Nabopolassar, was again laid aside. The war of the Assyrians with the Babylonians went on with mixed success, until Midia did not come

out against Assyria in 615; the Assyrians did not endure the struggle against this alliance, although Urartu and Mann fought on their side, and from 616 the allied Egyptian troops fought. The war turned into a "world" by the then Middle Eastern standards.

In 614 BC Medes captured Ashshur, Nineveh fell in 612, where King Sinsharishkun set himself on fire so as not to be captured; the last Assyrian king, Ashuruballit II, retreated to Harran in the west of Upper Mesopotamia, but this fragment of the state was also destroyed by the Babylonians in 609 BC. The population of the indigenous Assyrian cities was completely exterminated, and later the “Assyrians” were called Arameans - the main population of the Assyrian state. Assyria was so bitter with its cruelties the people of the Middle East that the death of Nineveh provoked the following reaction in the Old Testament: “Woe to the city of blood that is full of deceit and robbery, where predation does not stop! The noise of the whip and the noise of the wheels spinning, and the galloping horses, and the moving chariots the horsemen bring in a flaming sword and a blazing spear - and behold, the multitude of the slain, the corpses have no end, they stumble upon the bodies of the slain! Anyone who looks at you will say: “Nineveh has been defeated! Who will regret it? Where will I find you a comforter? Everyone who hears the news of you will be applauded, for whom has your anger not continually spread? ”

The sudden fall of Assyria was caused by two factors: the military-service mass, cut off from any social traditions, on which the Sargonids relied, eventually turned into self-sufficient power (which was the main factor of unrest and fall of its military effectiveness), uniting Front Asia and dragging more and more neighboring countries into the orbit of a single policy, Assyria itself rallying them around a common goal - the desire to destroy it, and brought upon itself the blows of such broad coalitions that it could not resist.

Time capsules

Ancient civilizations left us with encrypted messages, which, according to paleoarchaeologists, can be found on the territory of Russia. Where are they, what are they talking about and who sent them to the future from the depths of millennia? This was told in an interview by Vadim Chernobrov, a ufologist, a writer, and the head of the Kosmopoisk movement.

- There can be several "time capsules" left by dead civilizations on Earth. But, most likely, such messages, addressed from prehistoric times to modern humanity, are not summarized information about incredible technologies and secret knowledge, but a warning about possible global catastrophes, a story about the disasters that have already happened, which destroyed all life on our planet in prehistoric times.

For example, about the fall of an asteroid, the great flood, the shift of the axis of rotation of the Earth. The few people who survive in such a catastrophe will probably be able to preserve their knowledge, experience, and intellect for some time. And, of course, they will understand that ahead of their civilization are waiting for many centuries of degradation. Before it is too late, they will decide to warn future inhabitants of the Earth about the danger or just to tell about what happened.

- Why do you think that the representatives of the lost civilizations left us such warnings? Maybe they just decided to say hello to us, as we ourselves do, burying or mortising somewhere messages to imaginary descendants?

- I do not particularly notice today those who are interested in informing people of the distant future. Precisely far, not close. In Soviet

times, time capsules were fashionable, which laid out at the enterprises, messages to the Komsomol members of the 21st century. That is, addressing 50, well, 100 years ahead. But it’s not for thousands, or even millions of years.

Such a future is unimaginable for us. And it turns out that this message is not to "Komsomol members", but to whom it is not known. Our civilization practically does not make such time capsules, with the exception of pitiful exceptions - the storage of grains and plants in the ice of Norway, concreted, located deep under the ground are collections of individual libraries.

In fact, if you think about it - well, why take care of the civilization that will replace ours? In this case, we must reconcile with the idea that the present humanity will disappear, go into non-existence - just as five or six more humanity disappeared before us. But it is not at all our responsibility to inform what future rational beings about our joys and anxieties, mistakes and achievements are unknown.

Why on earth, instead of doing our daily work, we suddenly take on solving the problems of the following civilizations? In addition, most people are not so pessimistic and believe that the apocalypse can be avoided. Therefore, there is no reason to spend time on the construction of some cyclopean structures for the sake of doubtful glory that in millions of years someone will find them and "decipher" them.

“Why bother with building cyclopean structures with armored time capsules?” There is an opinion that after our civilization, there will be a lot of things left, because any disaster created by man will not destroy everything.

- Yes, after developed civilizations, and after thousands of centuries, there should be structures that are not similar to natural ones.

Airfields, dams, dams, roads, etc. will survive, but there are no skyscrapers on this list. The pressure of time and the elements can only be sustained by superstable buildings - the same Egyptian pyramids have survived more than one ancient civilization and, perhaps, will survive us if, God forbid, something happens to humanity. And skyscrapers and any frame houses, as well as bridges, have a very limited shelf life compared to thousands of years: they will collapse and turn into dust.

Most likely, prehistoric builders laid their warnings on the possibility of global catastrophes in megalithic monuments. Only huge stone buildings survive millennia and reach their descendants.

Monuments from other materials are either short-lived, or someone is tempted to destroy or melt them. That is, it is unreasonable to "send to the future" metal time capsules - wilder descendants will simply let them in on swords and worthless trinkets.

It is possible that many of them, like Stonehenge, are astronomical monuments. But to think that our distant ancestors raised such masses only to calculate the days of spring floods or the sowing season is naive. Rural workers, who are much closer to the earth than astronomers, openly laugh at what they need, with the help of megaliths, to predict the sowing time, because they themselves do this not by the stars, but by the temperature of the soil.

When the soil is warmed to the desired stage - you can plant. In other words, for the construction of giant megaliths any small goals are not enough. It makes sense to build them only if they have to perform their original function after many thousands of years. This role should be extremely important, otherwise for the sake of it you should not burden yourself and your relatives with titanic construction works.

Therefore, it is easy to calculate the prehistoric "time capsules" and

the place where they can be. In addition to Stonehenge, these are the great pyramids of South America and Egypt, and on the territory of our country - the disappeared ancient city of Arkaim in the Chelyabinsk region, megaliths on the Kola Peninsula, in Karelia and the Arkhangelsk region, in the regions of the legendary country of Hyperborea. And also at the bottom of the sea along the coast of the Arctic Ocean.

- Are we able to decipher the meaning of these messages at all? Or is it already lost?

- In this hope there is some kind of trap. With the change of generations, peoples, languages, something is leaving that allows people to understand each other. "Conversation" with a descendant after millions of years may be impossible if it is conducted in the language of human symbols. There are more chances to understand the language of astronomy, since astronomers, when verifying their messages, do not even turn to people, but simply to carriers of reason, imagining that only one thing can unite us with them - mathematics.

“Can there be time capsules in Earth orbit?” After all, we ourselves run them in automatic probes. Maybe old civilizations also had access to space?

- These attempts in their effectiveness remind me of throwing bottles with notes into the depths of the sea. Do not count examples when such messages reached the addressees. But most often it happened the other way around ... Meanwhile, only four time capsules sent by mankind have so far crossed the borders of the Solar system on the "Pioneers" and "Voyagers." Although, in order to seriously expect that our packages will be found by extraterrestrial civilizations, there must be at least many thousands of such "wrappers".

But in orbit other people's time capsules may be. Find them there is

much more likely than on Earth. Our planet, with its very complex geology, is a very unfortunate storage example for millions of years. Soil erosion, continental disasters, natural disasters are too few chances to survive for any creation of human hands.

Plus, human activities - megaliths and ancient monuments are often simply destroyed, they die in wars, like the famous Buddha statues in Afghanistan. But in the airless space, the capsules are not subject to destructive effects and can wait for their researchers as long as they like. And wait for them when the addressee becomes civilized so that it will be able to go out in airless space. Space is the most reliable bank for storing information, including "parcels from the distant past."

- Where should we look for space "time capsules"?

- There are several potential places near the Earth - for example, high orbits, in which satellites can rotate forever, without decreasing or burning in the atmosphere, or so-called forbidden orbits, where unidentified space bodies move against the Earth's rotation. Oddly enough, such satellites have been known since the beginning of the space age.

The most famous of them is the "unaccounted", in the words of science fiction writer Alexander Kazantsev, the satellite "Black Prince", launched by an unknown person and inaccessible to radars. In total, there are about twenty such elusive “black princes” in the Earth’s space...

And, of course, - the moon. Time capsules can be stored there for billions of years. Even a note on a piece of paper can lie on the surface of the moon forever, unless a meteorite hits it. And in a cave or another "sublunary" vault the time capsule is not threatened, and such a danger.

Children of the Gods

The ancient legends of the Kayapos Indians (South America) speak of a mysterious creature that “once appeared in a settlement”. Aborigines call it Bep Cororotti. The newcomer was wearing a “bo” suit, covering him from head to toe. In his hands he held a “cop”, a “weapon of thunder”. When this creature entered the village, the inhabitants were terribly frightened and hid. However, there were brave souls who began to attack the alien.

But they did not manage to do any harm to the “messenger of heaven”. Their clubs and spears just crumbled when they touched “bo”. Beporotti was a “good god.” To show his power to people, he raised a “cop - the weapon of thunder”, sent it to a tree, and it turned into dust, sent it to a stone, and it crumbled.

Beporotti stayed in the village and spent many years there. He taught the inhabitants to count, showed how to heal wounds, improved the methods of hunting and introduced many changes in the life of the tribe. However, while hunting with everyone, he never “ate kayapos food”. After some time, the “messenger of the heavens” married, choosing a young girl from the tribe as his wife, and soon Bep Kororothy had children.

Traditions point out that the new kayapos were “not like everyone else,” and much smarter than the rest of the inhabitants. Beporotti made sure that the knowledge that he passed on to the tribe was not lost. For this, he “gathered several young men and women and taught them all sorts of tricks”. Once “the messenger of heaven went to a high mountain to ascend from it to heaven”. Almost all the tribe went after him to see their benefactor. Beporororothy climbed the mountain, where “a cloud descended on him, thunder sounded, lightning flashed”, dust and smoke enveloped everyone present. “In the burning cloud” and Bep Cororotti

disappeared in the heavenly height ... Aborigines did not forget their “teacher”.

Until our times, the Kayapos Indians have preserved the custom by which the festivities in honor of “the god Bep Cororti” take place. Indians weave from palm leaves ritual clothes, which symbolize the image of a deity, his costume “bo”. Kayapos dress in them and perform various ritual dances. In the hands of the dancers hold palm sticks, which represent the mysterious weapon "cop". According to researchers, the ritual clothes of the Indians strikingly resemble modern space suits.

In the legends of the Brazilian Indian tribe Tupanimba speaks of the powerful god Monana, who created the Universe and man. According to the legends of this tribe, the god Monan lived in those days among the people who worshiped him. But then people began to “live not according to the precepts of Monan” and neglect them. Enraged Monan went to heaven “in a huge sparkling cloud of fire,” deciding from there to punish people for their sins and transgressions. He sent “heavenly fire” to Earth, which destroyed all people. Only one man spared Monan. His name was Irin-Mage, and he was pardoned for the “great veneration” of the deity. After the fire stopped raging, Irin-Mahe took one of Monana’s daughters as his wife and went down to earth to continue the human race.

A small tribe living on the banks of the river Hingu (a tributary of the Amazon), in its legends, reports amazing information about the history of mankind. According to their legends, in ancient times people lived “on a distant star”. Once all the inhabitants of the star gathered for a council to select a new place of residence. One of the “Indians” told his brethren about an unusually beautiful planet, on which he once managed to visit, passing through a “hole” in the sky. After his message, the council decided to move to Earth. The entire population of the star began to weave a thread out of cotton, along which they were too slowly descend to Earth. Soon most of the “Indians” moved to the “beautiful

planet”. Thanks to this mysterious thread, the new inhabitants of the earth were constantly in contact with their brothers remaining on the star. But the evil demon cut this thread, and the “Indians” could never again meet with their “star relatives”.

The tales of the inhabitants of the African continent, thousands of kilometers away from America, also tell us about events surprisingly resembling the tales of Brazilian Indians. In African mythology it is said that in ancient times “the children of God lived together with their father in heaven in peace, wealth and happiness”. But once God decided to test his children and sent them to Earth, banning "eating salt of the earth." The “children of God” descended from heaven along the thread that the father wove for them. But almost all sons have forgotten the father's testament and tasted the “salt”. When they decided to go up to heaven again, the thread broke, and they were forced to remain on Earth forever. Only one of the “sons” fulfilled the father’s testament and returned safely to heaven.

The ancient Tibetan texts Kandshur and Tandshur, which are stored in the dungeons of Buddhist monasteries, refer to flying machines like pearls in the sky, and transparent balloons in which “yugas were occasionally shown to people.” The oldest written source, which contains descriptions of UFO sightings, is considered papyrus, found in the collection of Professor A.Tulli, director of the Egyptian department of the Vatican Museum, which was written in the XV century BC, during the reign of Pharaoh Thutmosis III. The papyrus says: “In the year of the twenty second, in the third month of winter, at 6 o'clock in the afternoon, the scribes of the House of Life saw a moving circle of fire in the sky ... Its dimensions were an elbow in length and an elbow in width ... They fell on their faces and reported to Pharaoh, and he thought about it an event ... After a few days, these objects in the sky became numerous and shone brighter than the sun ... And Pharaoh looked at them with the army. By evening, the fiery circles rose higher and moved towards the

south ... Volatile substance fell from the sky ... Nothing like this happened from the very foundation of the Earth ... And Pharaoh burned incense to the gods and commanded to bring what happened to the annals of the House of Life. ”

Repeatedly mention of flying across the sky unknown disk-shaped objects are contained in the chronicles of the campaigns of Alexander the Great. The most interesting description is given in the “History of Alexander the Great” written by Giovanni Droysen. It dates back to 332 BC, when the Macedonian siege of the Phoenician city of Tire occurred. One day, five “flying shields” suddenly appeared over the Macedonian camp, moving across the sky in a triangular formation, and the object moving in the head was about twice as large as the others. In the eyes of thousands of astonished warriors, these “shields” slowly made several circles over Tire, after which lightning flashed out of them, forming gaps in the walls. The delighted Macedonians rushed to the assault, and the “flying shields” continued to circle the city until it was completely captured. Then they with great speed rose up and disappeared.

Flights of some unknown objects were observed in ancient Greece. So, the Greek philosopher Anaxagoras, who lived in the V century BC, saw in the sky an object the size of a large “log”, hanging motionless for several days and radiating an unusual glow. Another Greek philosopher Seneca, who lived in the 1st century BC, in his work “Questions of Naturalism” wrote: “In our era, beams of light that crossed the sky from east to west or vice versa were seen in the sky on bright days ... K the objects described by Posidonius belong to this class: pillars and shields covered with flame, as well as other luminous objects ... These lights in the sky appear not only at night, but during the day, and are not stars or parts of celestial bodies ... ”.

One of the characteristic descriptions is placed in the Greek history of Plutarch. It says that in 102 BC huge darts and flaming “shields”

appeared in the sky above the Italian cities of Ameri and Turdent, which initially moved separately and then joined together. However, some objects overtook each other, although there was no apparent confrontation between them. Among the moving bodies were cigar-shaped and disc-shaped objects. The second case, described by Plutarch, occurred in 73 BC not far from the Dardanelles, where the troops of the Roman commander Lukulla and the Bosporan king Mithridates were preparing to enter the battle: "... Suddenly, quite suddenly, the sky opened up and a large fiery body appeared, resembling a barrel, which swept down into the gap between the two armies. Frightened by this sign, the opponents dispersed without a fight. ”

Especially a lot of reports about mysterious flying objects of a round shape are contained in the writings of Roman historians and writers: Julius Obusequance - 63, Titus Liby - 30, Cicero - 9, Pliny the Elder - 26, and Dio Cassius - 14. Aristotle called them heavenly discs, and Pliny in the second volume of his Natural History gave the following classification of the luminous objects observed then: “discoids” - shaped like amber discs with a small amount of rays departing from them; “Pitei” - barrel-shaped or round; “Serratis” - shaped horns; “Lamps” - in the form of a burning torch. When describing these objects, Roman authors usually compared them with such well-known concepts like the sun, moon, round shields, logs, etc. In general, an analysis of 50 works of Roman authors shows that they describe the appearance of lights in the sky - 39 times, flying “shields” - 11, fire balls - 8, two or more suns - 12, night “sun” - 5 and unknown objects - 7 times.

In ancient Christian sources there are also descriptions of flights of some unknown objects resembling modern UFOs. Thus, in chapter 5 of the book of Zechariah the “flying barrel” is described, and in another place of this book it is reported that Zechariah saw a cylindrical object in the sky, about which the angel told Zechariah that it is “a curse that will forever hang over the Earth”. In the book of Daniel the prophet says that

he saw fire wheels in the sky. The famous “Qumran Scrolls” tells how Eve saw the chariot of fire carried by four glittering eagles through the clouds, and Adam, near whom this aircraft landed, clearly saw smoke coming between the wheels. Very rare messages about observations of unknown flying objects in the first centuries of our era have been preserved. Here is one of them: “In 235 in China, above the location of the commander Liange’s troops near Wei-Nana, a fiery red“ meteor ”appeared, moving from the north-east to south-west and emitting dagger rays. Three times he landed in front of Liange’s troops and behind them, moving back and forth. ”

It is also interesting that in the legends of North American Indians, according to the candidate of historical sciences V. Bilinbakhov, observations in the antiquity of flights of some circular objects were also mentioned. Thus, in the legends of the Indians of Wyoming, it was said that many moons ago a large “wheel” sailed from the sky and landed on the top of Shaman Mountain, and then flew away at the speed of a frightened bird. And in the legends of the Indians of Minnesota and Canada, it was said that "long before the arrival of the Europeans there were flying round silent chariots that could land on the sea."

The mystery of the death of ancient civilizations

In the mid-seventies, after reading the work of A. A. Gorbovsky, that many thousands of years ago there was a developed civilization that perished as a result of the flood, I was literally stunned. Reading and rereading his book "The Mysteries of Ancient Civilizations", I opened in it all the new details of the ancient power of the ancient, although it was unclear how some meteorite, although a giant one that fell into the ocean, can completely destroy the culture of the entire planet. After all, people, in the end, always restore everything that was destroyed and destroyed. Something was wrong here. Maybe, I thought, civilization

itself destroyed itself, for example, as a result of nuclear war...

Indeed, the Bible describes the destruction of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah with weapons, very reminiscent of nuclear weapons. And, perhaps, nuclear war just caused the Flood. I had a desire to determine whether there is a connection between these two terrible phenomena and, if there is one, then the bygone civilization really perished from nuclear weapons. So the work of Gorbovsky brought me to one of the most serious (and as it became clear one of the most secret) problems: ecology and nuclear war.

Already at the first acquaintance with the descriptions of the consequences of nuclear explosions, I learned that after the nuclear tests, torrential rains begin. Although this phenomenon was not explained in the literature, this connection was clearly traced during all the trials. Hence the conclusion: with numerous nuclear explosions, torrential rains must inevitably escalate into a global flood. Having worked on this issue, everything published in the open press, I found an acceptable explanation for this connection and my research ended with the work "The State of Climate, Biosphere and Civilization after the Use of Nuclear Weapons", which was set forth in the theses of several scientific conferences. Although the conclusions of this work were terrible, except for the experts, she no longer interested anyone.

I was delighted when, for the first time, high-ranking state officials showed interest in my work and invited me to the Diplomatic Academy for a scientific symposium devoted to the global problems of our time. Especially I was filled with ambitious hopes about a great scientific career after the report of the results of my work at the SA General Staff, when views on nuclear war changed not only among scientists, but also among the military. However, my hopes did not come true.

The strange chain of brutal murders and disappearances of people

who dealt with this problem, which followed, not only in our country, and not only in the team of Academician N. Moiseyev, but also abroad, forced me to abandon my scientific activities and investigate; why is this happening and who is behind it: intelligence, the KGB, our and foreign governments, opposition, secret forces? I was tormented by the main question: how dangerous are people for them who have tried to tell the Humanity the truth about nuclear war? Without an answer to it, I could not do anything else and continued to search and analyze in all directions, although it was beyond any logic. But I swore to get to the bottom of the truth.

Of course, I would never have thought that I would find the answers to the questions I had in the ancient history of our planet. Collecting materials and literature on it, I ended up embroiled in a fight with forces I never believed in the reality of. I apologize for the possible inaccuracies that are inevitable in this work, since the materials collected on this issue have disappeared from me several times, and I have to write a lot from memory, but I did not invent anything. Just the reality was again richer than fantasy.

Most ancient civilizations

Judging by the remnants of the amazing knowledge that has come down to us, which are reported by A.A. Gorbovsky, the civilization that has passed far exceeded ours. For example, as follows from the Ramayana and the Mahabharata, the ancients flew in wonderful machines of viman and agnichort.

The description of the universe in a small African tribe Dagon, living in Somalia, coincides with modern concepts. The Dagons preserved the memory of the representatives of an alien civilization living in the system of the planets of the star Sirius, very similar in demons to the descriptions of various peoples of our planet. Does this

not indicate that the civilization of the Earth, to which the Dagons belonged, once made interstellar flights?

In the thirties of our century, the expedition of N.K. Roerich conducted research in the Gobi Desert. And in this now waterless area gathered a very rich material. Many household items related to the Aryan-Slavic culture were discovered. From the legends of Roerich N.K. concluded that in this place there was once a blooming land with a very developed civilization, which perished from the use of terrible thermal weapons, apparently obtained with the help of psychic energy.

The existence of ancient civilizations is confirmed by material finds, which are sometimes attributed to the activities of aliens or declare hoaxes. For example, finds in the mines of Western Europe, gold chains, iron parallelepiped, 20-centimeter nail. Or plastic columns found in the coal mines of the USSR, an iron meter cylinder with round splashes of yellow metal.

An imprint of a boot tread in sandstone, found in the Gobi Desert, whose age is estimated at 10 million years, as reported by Soviet writer A. Kazantsev, or a similar imprint on limestone blocks in Nevada (USA). Porcelain high-voltage glass, overgrown with petrified mollusks, whose age is estimated at 500 thousand years, etc. These few finds so far allow us to conclude that the ancient civilization not only mined coal, had electricity and plastics production, but also the fact that there was not a developed civilization on Earth.

On the basis of the collected information on geochronology, the American scientist R. Fairbridge, followed by other scientists, made a chart of possible changes in the level of the World Ocean. About 25-30 thousand years ago, due to the beginning of the glaciation of the planet, the level of the World Ocean dropped to 100 meters. For almost 10,000 years, it slowly rose and about 15,000 years ago rose immediately to 20

meters. Finally, about 7,000 years ago, the level of the ocean spasmed rose another 6 meters and remains at this point so far. All three changes in the level of the oceans are associated with environmental and climatic disasters, which are described in the myths, legends and legends of various peoples.

The last two ascents are caused by global floods, and the first - by a fiery cataclysm. This is how the Bible describes the fiery cataclysm in the "Revelation of John the Theologian," after the removal of the seventh seal, Chapter 8 says: "... and voices and thunder, and lightning, and an earthquake occurred ... and hail and fire mixed with blood, and they fell to the ground, and a third of the trees burned, and all the green grass burned down ... and like a big mountain, burning with fire, plunged into the sea ... "

In 1965, the Italian scientist Colossimos summarized the data of all then known archaeological expeditions and ancient written sources and concluded that in the past, the Earth was the scene of hostilities with the use of nuclear weapons. In the Puranas, in the Rio Codex, the Maya, in the Bible, in the Arvaks, among the Indians of the Chiroki tribe, and among some other nations — weapons that resemble nuclear weapons are described everywhere. This is how Brahma’s weapon in the Ramayana is described: “A huge and spewing flame, the explosion from him was as bright as 10,000 suns. Flame, devoid of smoke, spread in all directions and meant to kill all the people. The survivors fall hair and nails, and food comes out of order. "

Traces of thermal effects were found not only by the Roerich expedition in the Gobi desert, but also in the Middle East, in the biblical cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, in Europe (for example, in Stonehenge), in Africa, Asia, and North and South America. In all those places where there are now deserts, semi-deserts and half-life spaces, 30 thousand years ago a fire broke out that engulfed almost 70 million square

kilometers of continents (70% of the planet’s total land area).

The artificial method of coal production is known: wood is heated without oxygen and it is charred. Detectable surface deposits of coal may indicate that felled wood was then subjected to heat, which turned into coal, which then turned to stone. If the tree is simply petrified without prior thermal exposure, then it is incapable of burning, because, due to diffusion, it is impregnated with the surrounding rocks. It is estimated that a medium-sized mollusk needs 500,000 years for petrification. Therefore, the existence of coal deposits on Earth may indicate that our planet has been exposed to heat several times already.

Ancient biosphere

The nuclear cataclysm on Earth was supposed to leave behind material traces. I began to look for them and found them in a completely unexpected place. The plasma of a nuclear mushroom reaches a temperature of several million degrees, so the rock in the formed funnels, as shown by tests, heated to 5 thousand degrees Celsius, is melted and turned into a glassy mass. Such a vitreous substance is commonly found on Earth and is called "tektites". They are usually brown or black.

Some researchers suggest that these are meteorites, although so far no meteorite consisting of tektites has been found. Tektites are of terrestrial origin, and they are the very material remnants of a nuclear disaster.

Thus, I proved to myself that the nuclear catastrophe that took place on Earth was not a hypothesis, not a fiction, but a real tragedy, which took place 25-30 thousand years ago, after which the nuclear winter came, known to science as the world glaciation. After this conclusion, I left the topic of the lost civilizations, and many years passed before I returned to it, but now not from the point of view of

material remnants, but from the point of view of the biological law of the general plan for the evolution of life discovered in the last century.

Modern Darwinism, resting on three basic principles - heredity, variability and selection, is not able to explain evolution, especially its expediency and direction. One successful mutation in an individual (on which its argumentation is based) cannot lead to the evolution of life, since its distribution to the descendants of the entire species is stretched for many thousands of years.

And habitat conditions change much more often and require immediate adaptation, otherwise the species will die. Therefore, mutation occurs immediately in the whole species and is caused by the conditions to which the species must adapt (adapt).

In order to predict further evolution, it is necessary to investigate not a separate individual, but a population and a species as a whole with a habitat (biocenosis). Only at this level or even at the level of the biosphere can we find patterns in evolution. This view was derived from the position of VI Vernadsky, that life changes the chemical composition of the environment, and the environment changes life, which again changes the environment.

Therefore, I tried to derive the evolution from the chemical factors that surround us: the composition of the atmosphere, water, food, oceans - everything that has a chemical effect on the living (and the fact that chemicals cause mutations was discovered a long time ago). And here I was faced with a phenomenon that no one explained.

In the ocean, carbon dioxide is 60 times more than in the atmosphere. It would seem that there is nothing special here, but the fact is that in river water its content is the same as in the atmosphere. If we calculate the total amount of carbon dioxide that volcanoes allocated for

the last 25,000 years, then its content in the ocean would increase by no more than 15% (0.15 times), but by no means 60 (i.e., 6.000%).

It remained to make only one assumption: there was a huge fire on Earth, and the carbon dioxide formed was “washed” into the World Ocean. Calculations showed that in order to get this amount of CO2, you need to burn carbon 20.000 times more than it is in our modern biosphere.

Of course, I could not believe in such a fantastic result, because if all the water had stood out from such a huge biosphere, the level of the World Ocean would rise to 70 meters. It was necessary to look for another explanation. But what was my surprise when suddenly it was discovered that just the same amount of water is in the polar caps of the poles of the Earth. This amazing coincidence left no doubt that all this water used to flow into the bodies of animals and plants of the dead biosphere. It turned out that the ancient biosphere was indeed 20,000 times larger than ours by mass.

That is why such huge ancient riverbeds remained on Earth, which are tens and hundreds of times more modern, and in the Gobi Desert grandiose dried-up water systems are preserved. Now there are no rivers of this size anymore. Along the ancient shores of the deep rivers, many-tier forests grew where mastodon, megatheria, glyptodonts, saber-toothed tigers, huge cave bears and other giants lived.

Even the well-known pig (boar) of that period had the dimensions of a modern rhinoceros. Simple calculations show that at this size of the biosphere, the atmospheric pressure should be 8-9 atmospheres. And here one more coincidence was found. The researchers decided to measure the pressure in air bubbles, which were formed in amber - the petrified resin of trees. And it turned out to be equal to 8 atmospheres, and the oxygen content in the air is 28%! Now it became clear why ostriches and

penguins suddenly forgot how to fly.

After all, giant birds can only fly in a dense atmosphere, and when it became discharged, they were forced to move only on the ground. With such an atmosphere density, the air element was thoroughly mastered by life, and the flight was normal. All flew: those who had wings, and those who did not have them. The Russian word "aeronautics" has an ancient origin and meant that in the air at such a density one can swim like in water. Many people have dreams in which they fly. This is a manifestation of the deep memory of the amazing ability of our ancestors.

The remnants of the “former luxury” from the lost biosphere are huge redwoods, reaching a height of 70 meters, 150 meters of eucalyptus, which until recently were widely distributed throughout the planet (the modern forest has a height of no more than 15-20 meters). Now 70% of the Earth’s territory are deserts, semi-deserts and sparsely populated by the life of space. It turns out that the biosphere is 20,000 times more modern could be located on our planet (although the Earth can accommodate a much larger mass).

Dense air is more heat conductive, so the subtropical climate spread from the equator to the north and south poles, where there was no ice shell and it was warm. The reality that Antarctica was free of ice was confirmed by the American expedition of Admiral Beyerd in 1946-47, which caught samples of muddy sediments on the ocean floor near Antarctica. Such deposits are evidence that 10-12 thousand years BC (this is the age of these deposits) rivers flowed across Antarctica.

This is also indicated by frozen trees found on this continent. On the maps of the 16th century Piri Reis and Orontus Finneus, there is Antarctica, discovered only in the 18th century, and it is depicted free from ice. According to most researchers, these maps were redrawn from

ancient sources stored in the Alexandrian Library (finally burned in the 7th century AD), and they depict the surface of the Earth as it was 12,000 years ago.

The high density of the atmosphere allowed people to live high in the mountains, where the air pressure was reduced to one atmosphere. Therefore, now lifeless, the ancient Indian city of Tiahuanaco, built at an altitude of 5,000 meters, could once really be inhabited. After the nuclear explosions that threw air into space, the pressure dropped from eight to one atmosphere on a plain and to 0.3 at an altitude of 5,000 meters, so there is now a lifeless place. The Japanese have a national tradition, they grow trees (oaks, birches, etc.) on the window sills under a hood with discharged air, which, when grown, are the size of grass.

Therefore, many trees after the disaster have become herbs. And the vegetable giants, having dimensions from 150 to 1.000 meters high, either completely died out, or reduced their sizes to 15-20 meters. Most of the species of woody plants that used to grow in the mountains began to grow on the plains. The fauna descended from the mountains, since the majority of mountain dwellers are hoofed animals (solid ground directs the evolution of the base towards solidification, that is, the hooves). Now ungulates are widely represented on the plain, where the soft soil could not lead to the hardening of the sole.

On Earth, preserved another proof of the power of the ancient biosphere. Of the existing soil types, the most fertile are yellow earth, red earth and black soil. The first two soils are found in the tropics and subtropics, the last in the middle belt. The usual thickness of the fertile layer - 20 centimeters, sometimes a meter, very rarely a few meters. As our compatriot V.V. Dokuchaev showed, the soil is a living organism, thanks to which there is a modern biosphere. However, everywhere on Earth, huge deposits of red and yellow clay (less often gray) are found, from which organic remains are washed out by the flood waters.

In the past, these clays were red earth and yellow soils. The multimeter layer of ancient soils once gave strength not only to our bogatyrs, but also to a powerful biosphere, which has now completely disappeared. In trees, the root length refers to the trunk as 1:20; therefore, with a soil layer thickness of 20-30 meters, which occurs in clay deposits, trees could reach 400-1200 meters in height. Accordingly, the fruits of such trees were from several tens to several hundred kilograms, and creeping plants such as watermelon, melon, pumpkin - up to several tons. Can you imagine what sizes they had flowers? The person next to them would feel Thumbelina.

The gigantism of most modern animal species of the past biosphere is confirmed by paleontological finds, even the usual boar was as large as a rhinoceros. This period was not ignored by the mythology of various peoples, telling us about the giants of the past. Thus, for example, the Tsyunsang in Chinese mythology, a distant mulberry tree growing on the shores of the West Sea reached a height of 1000 shuans, had red leaves and bore fruit once every 1000 years.

Asuras (Titans) Civilization

The Bible brought to us the legend that there used to be a Golden Age on Earth, then Silver came, which was replaced by the Bronze, which ended today with the Iron Age.

We find similar descriptions in Vedic sources, where our time corresponding to the Iron Age is called Kali-Yuga. In the legends of American Indians, African and Australian peoples, the Rigveda, the Puranas (ancient Aryan written monuments) and other sources, it is reported that the demigods first lived on the earth - "asuras" ("ahuras" according to ancient Iranian sources, "ases" according to German Scandinavian, and according to Greek mythology - "titans"). Then they

were replaced by the Atlanteans, in parallel with which there existed monkeys, which conquered individual peoples of the degenerate Atlantes.

We learned about this not only from the legends of North American Indians, but also from Vedic sources, according to which even the great enlightened Rama, who led the Aryans to India, when conquering Ceylon, used monkeys in his troops. Finally, after the death of the Atlanteans, a civilization of giants arose. We will call it the civilization of the Boreas. Judging by the message of the ancient Greek historian Herodotus, then perhaps they called themselves that.

Today it is considered that the word "asuras" (inhabitants of the Earth) comes from the ancient Sanskrit word "sura" - "gods" and the negative part - "a", i.e. "not gods". In the Vedas, they are also called "demigods", possessing the magic power "Maya". But, as Ye.P. rightly believes. Blavatsky, the word "asuras" comes from the Sanskrit "asu" - breath. According to the Vedas, the first war in heaven - tarakamaya, occurred between the gods and asuras because of the abduction of the king of the asuras, Brhaspati, called Tara, by King Soma (the Moon).

In the ancient biosphere, people were of considerable growth. Today there is perhaps no nation that would have no legends about giants. In all the ancient written sources that have come down to us: the Bible, the Avesta, the Vedas, the Edda, the Chinese and Tibetan chronicles, etc. - everywhere we come across messages about giants. Even in the Asirian cuneiform clay tablets, it is reported about the giant Izdubar, who towered over all other people like cedar above the bushes.

Is it a coincidence? I think that such an abundance of written and oral legends makes us believe that giants lived on Earth in antiquity. The Tibetan monk Trumpa reports that at the next dedication he was led to an underground monastery, where two bodies of a woman and a man, 5 and

6 meters in height, were embalmed, respectively. Charles Fort reports on giant skeletons of people that our researchers still do not want to recognize as genuine.

From this point of view, “useless” cyclopean structures, such as menhirs, dolmens, terraces of Bealbek, houses themselves, 20 meter fortified walls, etc., become clear. It was not a whim; just the growth of ancient people did not allow the construction of smaller structures. In the Afghan village near the city of Kabul, 5 stone figures are preserved: one of normal height, the other 6 meters, the third 18, the fourth 38 meters and the last 54 meters.

Local residents are not aware of the origin of these statues and suggest that these are guards protecting their village. And we know that, along with the legends about giants, myths about titans are found among nations. From the Old Russian epic story about Svyatoslav we find out that it was the size of a mountain, so Illya Muromets, whom he put in his pocket, was placed in his palm. The very old Russian word "bylina" comes from the word "true", i.e. the event has already occurred and precludes any fantasies. Ilya Muromets is a historical person. He lived in the time of Prince Vladimir, who baptized Russia. His grave, which is located in Kiev, recently scientists opened to study the remains. So, Svyatogor is not fiction, and he had a height, judging by the epic, about 50 meters. Just such growth was the entire race of asuras.

Svyatogor spoke Russian, defended the Russian land and was the ancestor of the Russian people. Since most peoples did not develop relationships with giants (titans), the Russians turned out to be practically the only people who received the ancient knowledge of our ancestors from Svyatogor, Usyn, Dobrynia and other titans. But, apparently, the relations with all the titans did not develop peacefully (almost all nations, except Russians, did not develop at all). Let us recall, for example, the well-known Pushkin poem "Ruslan and Lyudmila",

written based on Russian folk tales. Ruslan fought with the "head" of the dozing asura, (at the asuras it was about 6 meters), whose body apparently sank into the ground (in the marsh) while he slept.

In our time, it was difficult to exist in the atmosphere discharged for the asuras, because, according to a number of physicists, they could crush themselves with their own weight. Although this statement is rather doubtful, based on the goniometry of the human body, with a height of 50 meters, the weight was 30 tons, the reach at the shoulders was 12 meters, the body thickness was 5 meters. From epics about Svyatoslav we learn that he basically lay, because it was difficult for him to wear his body. In Russian epics there is no description, as is the case with other nations, that the asuras allegedly were cannibals. It was an obvious lie, since with its 50-meter height, the titans had a brain weight of almost a ton and could not be so primitive as cannibals. But it could well relate to some species of giants that arose much later, having a height of only a few meters.

A modern person can quite freely lift half of his weight and with some tension his own weight. Surely this could do and asuras. Perhaps they helped a person in building some cyclopean (megalithic) religious buildings, the same Stonehenge in England or the temple of the "Sun and the Dragon" in Brittany (France). Apparently, transportation and removal of slabs weighing 20 tons, of which some miraculously preserved cyclopean structures were laid out, was common in antiquity.

A series of cyclopean structures preserved on Earth tells us that they were a match for their builders. For example, the Baalbek terrace or the ruins of ancient temples and palaces located in Egypt at the site of ancient Thebes and called "Karnak". According to E.P. Blavatsky, "in one of the many halls of the palace of the hypostyle of Karnak, with one hundred and forty columns, the Notre-Dame de Paris could easily fit without looking at the ceiling and looking like a small decoration in the

center of the hall."

The life span of our ancestors was unusually long. According to EP Blavatsky (and she refers to the priest of the temple Bela Beroz, the author of "History of Cosmogony"), Alapar, the second divine ruler of Babylonia, reigned 10,800 years, and the first ruler of Alor - 36,000 years. From these figures it follows that the average age of the asuras was 50,000 - 100,000 years.

If a person was able to live for more than a thousand years, then it was already indifferent to him how much to live. Not only the Bible claims that people were immortal at first. On Earth, perhaps, there is no such people, which has not preserved legends and stories about immortal people. Similar myths are found in North American and South American Indians, in the peoples of Europe, Africa, and even the aborigines of Australia have legends about immortality.

Such a life expectancy was due to the presence of aspiral growth in the asuras, i.e. growth that does not stop throughout life (in modern man, it is also caused by certain types of periodic cleansing of the body). Our biologists and gerontologists have long determined that there is no senile change in the period of growth and development of the human or animal organism. Formation of human growth ends by 18 years and up to 25 years (ie, for 7 years) a person grows no more than 1.0-1.5 cm.

Then we can calculate that with an aczpetetal growth a person will grow 140-220 cm in 1,000 years. Thus, the biblical characters had a height of three to four meters (1.6 + 2.2 = 3.8 m) only because they lived almost a thousand years. The second Chaldean king, who reigned for 10,800 years, had a height of 1.4 x 10.8 + 1.6 = 16 meters, and the first king who reigned for 36,000 years was supposed to have a much greater growth: 1.4 x 36 + 1.6 = 52 meters.

Therefore, the statue of 54 meters, found in a village near Kabul, is a natural growth of the disappeared people, the lost civilization of the asuras (titans). The second statue of 18 meters is the natural growth of the Atlanteans, if we divide this figure by 1.4 meters (an increase in height over 1,000 years), then we get the average age of the Atlanteans: (18 m - 2 m = 16 m): 1.4 m = 10.000 - exactly the same number of years existed and the civilization of the Atlanteans itself (considering it as the beginning of the moment of the death of the asuras).

The third statue of 6 meters - this is the growth of pre-biblical characters. It is precisely by this time that the Old Russian expression can be attributed: "sazhen in the shoulders." Sazhen is an ancient measure equal to almost two meters. Based on the goniometry of the human body with a two-meter stretch of the shoulders, a person’s height should be 6 meters (since the shoulders and height of men are related as 1: 3). The six-meter statue symbolizes the Borean civilization, which lasted just over 4,000 years. And finally, the fourth statue is the growth of the people of our last civilization, with a lifespan of less than 100 years.

A born child is three times less than a person’s normal height. If after a drop in pressure in the atmosphere from eight to one atmosphere there was a degeneration of growth, then we would have to observe the following sequence: from 54 meters people decreased to 18 meters, from 18 to 6, and from 6 to 2, i.e. all the time, growth has shrunk by a factor of three.

The asuras were practically immortal, so they survived to our time. Many of the Slavic names that have come down to us speak of the tremendous growth of our ancestors: Goryn, Vernigor, Vertigora, Svyatogor, Valigor, Validub, Duboder, Vyrvidub, Zprivoda, etc.

Asur civilization existed about five to ten million years, i.e. 100 -

200 generations (for comparison, our civilization exists about 50 generations). Such a duration was due to the fact that long-lived people are not inclined to "progressive" changes either in their life or in their society. Therefore, their civilization was distinguished by enviable stability and longevity. Indeed, in the "Puranas" it is reported that the duration of the Satya (Crete) Yuga is 1.728.000 years (according to the Bible this time corresponds to the Golden Age), the next period of Treta Yuga lasted for 1.296.000 years (in the Bible Silver Age), Dvapara of the South - 864.000 years (Bronze Age) and, finally, our time - Kali Yuga (Iron Age), 432-millennium of which is now ending. In the amount of 4,320,000 years, human civilization already exists.

If the asuras lived for 50-100 thousand years and they have such a huge period of culture, then their civilization should have been about one hundred billion people, which corresponds to 30 trillion people of our civilization, but as reported by HP Blavatsky referring to the "Puranas" - there were only 33 million. It is quite possible that in the Puranas this figure was specially underestimated to conceal the scale of the crime. After the death of the asuras, there were only a few tens of thousands left.

Where then were their cities located? After all, if humanity had the same population density, all the continents would be a solid city and the forests would simply have nowhere to grow. According to Vedic sources, the asuras had three heavenly cities: gold, silver and iron, and the rest of the cities were underground, i.e. they did not have the ecological cretinism of our civilization, which served their longevity. That is why there are no traces of Asur civilization on Earth, there is neither a cultural layer, nor burial places, nor a large number of material remains.

The whole life of the asuras was either underground (where cavers are still finding a lot of interesting things), or in flying cities. On the surface of the Earth there were only temples with sacred groves and

totem animals, scientific stations (mainly biological and astrological), cosmodromes like the one that remained in the Nazca desert (South America), orchards and very little land was plowed up for arable land, because there were mostly underground gardens, so colorfully described by Chinese legends.

With the immersion deep into the Earth, the temperature of the layers grows, therefore our planet is a free source of thermal and electrical energy, which the asuras successfully used. Of course, they did not live underground in total darkness. Luminous bacteria, if there are many of them, are capable of producing such a brightness of light that no electrical source will give. The riddle of the painting of the Egyptian pyramids corridors lies in the fact that no soot was found anywhere, and this indicates that even the Egyptians, whose level of civilization was significantly lower than Asur, could receive light either by electricity or by some other means. The Vedas indicate that the Nagy underground palaces were illuminated with crystals extracted from the depths of the Himalayas.

The disappearance of many plants from the biosphere, and above all cultural ones, later forced the descendants of the asuras (some of the Atlanteans) to go to meat-eating, and during the civilization of the Atlanteans, according to many legends about giants, to cannibalism. Of course, they did not disdain any animals, but it is always easier to catch people living crowded together than to catch the same number of animals chasing them all over the forest.

Traces of a nuclear cataclysm on Earth

The listed material finds and historical evidence are not enough to conclude that the catastrophe was nuclear. It was necessary to find traces of radiation. And there are a lot of such traces on Earth.

First, as the consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe show, now in animals and people mutations occur, leading to cyclopism (in Cyclops, one eye is above the bridge of the nose). And we know from the legends of many nations about the existence of the Cyclops, with whom people had to fight.

The second direction of radioactive mutagenesis is polyplodia — doubling of the chromosome set, which leads to gigantism and doubling of certain organs: two hearts or two rows of teeth. Remains of giant skeletons with a double row of teeth are periodically found on Earth, as reported by Michael Persinger.

The third direction of radioactive mutagenesis is Mongoloid. Currently, the Mongoloid race is most common on the planet. It includes the Chinese, Mongols, Eskimos, the Urals, South Siberian peoples and peoples of both Americas. But before the Mongoloids were represented much more widely, since they were found both in Europe, and in Sumeria, and in Egypt. Subsequently, they were driven out of these places by the Aryan and Semitic peoples. Even in Central Africa there are Bushmen and Hottentots who have black skin, but nevertheless possess characteristic Mongoloid features. It is noteworthy that the spread of the Mongoloid race correlates with the spread of deserts and semi-deserts on Earth, where the main centers of the lost civilization were once.

The fourth evidence of radioactive mutagenesis is the birth of freaks in humans and the birth of children with atavism (return to ancestors). It is explained by the fact that deformities after radiation at that time were widespread and were considered normal, so this recessive symptom sometimes appears in newborns. For example, radiation leads to a six-pitfalls occurring in the Japanese, who survived the American nuclear bombardment, in the newborns of Chernobyl, and this mutation has persisted to this day. If in Europe during the witch hunt such people

were completely exterminated, in Russia before the revolution there were whole villages of six-fingered people.

More than 100 craters have been found throughout the world, the average size of which is 2-3 km in diameter, although there are two huge funnels: one with a diameter of 40 km in South America and the second 120 km in South Africa. If they were formed in the Paleozoic era, i.e. 350 million years ago, as some researchers believe, nothing would have been left of them long ago, since wind, volcanic dust, animals and plants increase the thickness of the surface layer of the earth by an average of one meter per hundred years. Therefore, over a million years, a depth of 10 km would be equal to the surface of the earth. And the funnels are still intact, i.e. over the course of 25 thousand years, they have reduced their depth by only 250 meters.

This allows us to estimate the strength of a nuclear strike made 25,000 - 35,000 years ago. Taking an average diameter of 100 craters per 3 km, we find that as a result of the war with asuras on Earth, about 5,000 Mt of "boson" bombs were exploded. We must not forget that the biosphere of the Earth at that time was 20,000 times more modern, so it was able to withstand such a huge number of nuclear explosions. Dust and soot blocked the Sun, nuclear winter came. Water falling as snow in the zone of the poles, where the eternal cold occurred, was turned off from the biosphere turnover.

Two so-called Venusian calendars were found among the Mayan peoples - one consisted of 240 days, the other of 290 days. Both of these calendars are associated with catastrophes on Earth, which did not change the radius of rotation in orbit, but accelerated the daily rotation of the planet. We know that when a ballerina rotates her hands to her body or raises them above her head, she begins to rotate faster.

Similarly, on our planet, the redistribution of water from the

continents to the poles caused an acceleration of the Earth’s rotation and a general cooling, since the earth did not have time to warm up. Therefore, in the first case, when the year was 240 days, the length of the day was 36 hours, and this calendar refers to the period of Asuras civilization, in the second calendar (290 days) the length of the day was 32 hours, and it was the Atlantean civilization period.

The fact that such calendars existed on Earth in antiquity speaks of our physiologists: if a person is placed in a dungeon without a clock, he begins to live according to an inner, more ancient rhythm, as if in days of 36 hours.

All these facts prove that nuclear war was. According to ours with A.I. According to Krylov's calculations, given in the Global Problems of Our Time collection, as a result of nuclear explosions and the fires caused by them, energy should be released 28 times more than during the nuclear explosions themselves (calculations were made for our biosphere, this figure is much higher for Asur biosphere). A spreading wall of fire destroyed all living things. Who did not burn, he was choking on carbon monoxide.

People and animals fled to the water to find their own death. The fire raged "for three days and three nights," and eventually caused widespread nuclear rain — where the bombs did not fall, radiation fell. Here's how the effects of radiation are described in the Rio Code of the Mayan people: “The dog came without hair and its claws fell off” (a characteristic symptom for radiation sickness).

But besides radiation, a nuclear explosion is characterized by another terrible phenomenon. The residents of the Japanese cities of Nagasaki and Hiroshima, although they did not see the nuclear mushroom (because they were in shelter) and were far from the epicenter of the explosion, nevertheless received light burns of the body. This fact

is explained by the fact that the shock wave spreads not only along the earth, but also upwards. Carrying away dust and moisture, the shock wave reaches the stratosphere and destroys the ozone screen, protecting the planet from harsh ultraviolet radiation.

And the latter, as is known, causes burns of unprotected skin areas. The release of air explosions into outer space by nuclear explosions and the decrease in the pressure of the Asur atmosphere from eight to one atmosphere caused decompression sickness in people. The beginning processes of decay changed the gas composition of the atmosphere, the released deadly concentrations of hydrogen sulfide and methane poisoned everyone who miraculously survived (the latter is still frozen in huge amounts in the ice caps of the poles). Oceans, seas and rivers were poisoned by decaying corpses. For all the survivors began hunger.

People tried to escape from poisonous air, radiation and low atmospheric pressure in their underground cities. But the subsequent showers, and then earthquakes destroyed everything they created and drove them back to the surface of the earth. Using the device resembling a laser described in the Mahabharata, people hastily built huge underground galleries, sometimes over 100 meters high, thereby trying to create conditions for life there: necessary pressure, temperature and air composition. But the war continued, and even here they were overtaken by the enemy. Researchers suggest that the "pipes" that have survived to our day, connecting the caves to the surface of the earth, have a natural origin.

In reality, burned with laser weapons, they were made to smoke people trying to escape in dungeons from poisonous gases and low pressure. These pipes are too round to speak of their natural origin (many such "natural" pipes are located in the caves of the Perm region, including the famous Kungur region). Of course, the construction of the tunnels began long before the nuclear disaster. Now they have an

unattractive look and are perceived by us as “caves” of natural origin, but would our metro look better for many, would we sink into it after five hundred years? We would only admire the "game of natural forces."

Laser weapons were used, apparently, not only for smoking people. When the laser beam reached the underground molten layer, the magma rushed to the surface of the earth, erupted and caused a powerful earthquake. So volcanoes of artificial origin were born on Earth.

Now it becomes clear why thousands of kilometers of tunnels have been dug across the planet, which was discovered in Altai, the Urals, the Tien Shan, the Caucasus, the Sahara, the Gobi, in North and South America. One of these tunnels connects Morocco with Spain. According to Colossimo, through this tunnel, apparently, only the monkey species of Gibraltar existing today exists in Europe, living in the vicinity of the exit from the cave.

What happened after all? According to my calculations, made in the work: "The State of Climate, Biosphere and Civilization after the Use of Nuclear Weapons" in order to provoke a flood in modern conditions of the Earth with subsequent sedimentary-tectonic cycles, it is necessary to blow up 12 Mt nuclear bombs in the zones of thickening of life. Due to fires, additional energy is released, which becomes a condition for intensive evaporation of water and intensification of moisture circulation.

In order for nuclear winter to come at once, bypassing the flood, you need to blow up 40 Mt, and in order for the biosphere to die completely, you need to blow up 300 Mt, in this case, air masses will be released into space and the pressure drops like on Mars - to 0.1 atmosphere. For complete radioactive contamination of the planet, when even spiders will die, i.e. 900 roentgens (70 rots are already deadly for a person) - it is necessary to blow up 3020 Mt.

Carbon dioxide resulting from fires creates a greenhouse effect, i.e. absorbs additional solar energy, which is spent on the evaporation of moisture and wind strengthening. This causes intense rainfall and the redistribution of water from the oceans to the continents. Water accumulating in the natural depressions causes stresses in the earth’s crust, which leads to earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. The latter, throwing tons of dust into the stratosphere, lower the temperature of the planet (as dust traps the sun's rays).

Sedimentary tectonic cycles, i.e. floods, growing into long winters, went on for thousands of years, until the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere returned to normal. The winter lasted for 20 years (time precipitation of dust that fell into the upper atmosphere, with our own atmosphere density, dust will be precipitated for 3 years).

Those who remained in the dungeon, gradually lost their sight. Let us recall again the epic of Svyatoslav, whose father lived in a dungeon and did not go to the surface, because he was blind. New generations after the asuras rapidly diminished in size to dwarfs, legends about which are abundant among various peoples. By the way, they have survived to this day and have not only black skin, like the pygmies of Africa, but also white: the Guinean menechets who mixed with the local population, the Dopa and Ham ethnic groups, have a height of just over a meter and live in Tibet, finally, trolls , gnomes, elves, white-eyed chud, etc., who did not consider it possible to come into contact with Humanity. Parallel to this, there was a gradual wildness of people, detached from society, and turning them into monkeys.

Not far from Sterlitamak on level ground there are two nearby dunes consisting of mineral substances, and under them are oil lenses. It is quite possible that these are two graves of asuras (although there are a lot of similar graves of asuras on the territory of the Earth). However,

some of the asuras survived to our era.

In the seventies, the Commission for Anomalous Phenomena, then headed by F. Yu. Ziegel, received reports of the observation of the giants, “supporting the clouds,” whose step was cutting forests. It is good, after all, that excited local residents were able to correctly identify this phenomenon. Usually, if a phenomenon doesn’t seem like it, people just don’t see it. The growth of the observed creatures did not exceed a 40-story house and was in fact significantly below the clouds.

But for the rest, it coincides with the descriptions imprinted by Russian epic words: the buzzing, moaning ground heavy steps and the giant's feet falling into the ground. The asuras, over whom time has no power, survived to our time, hiding in their huge dungeons, and may well tell us about the past, as Svyatogor, Gorynia, Dubynya, Usynya and other titans, who are heroes of Russian epics, did, of course, we will not try to kill them again.

About the possibility of life under the ground. This is not such a fantasy. According to geologists, there is more water underground than in the whole World Ocean, and not all of it is in a bound state, i.e. only part of the water is part of the minerals and rocks. To date, underground seas, lakes and rivers have been discovered. It has been suggested that the waters of the World Ocean are associated with an underground water system, and, accordingly, not only is the circulation and exchange of water between them, but also the exchange of biological species.

Unfortunately, this area has so far remained completely unexplored. In order for the underground biosphere to be self-sufficient, there must be plants that produce oxygen and decompose carbon dioxide. But plants, it turns out, can live, grow and produce fruits without light, as Tolkien reports in his book The Secret Life of Plants. It is enough to pass on the ground a weak electrical current of a certain frequency, and

photosynthesis occurs in complete darkness. However, the underground life forms do not have to be similar to those on Earth. In the places of heat coming to the surface from the bowels of the earth, special forms of thematic life, which does not need light, were discovered.

It may well be that they can be not only unicellular, but also multicellular and even reach a very high level of development. Therefore, it is very likely that the underground biosphere is self-sufficient, it contains species similar to plants and species similar to animals and it lives completely independently of the existing biosphere. If thermal "plants" are not able to live on the surface, just as our plants are not capable of living underground, then animals that feed on thermal "plants" are also able to eat normal ones.

The periodic appearance of the Serpent of the Gorynychs, or, in modern language, dinosaurs, every now and then occurring all over the planet: remember the Loch Ness monster, repeated observation by teams of Soviet nuclear-powered submarines of a floating submarine of a 20-meter plesiosaur, and etc. - cases that are systematized and described by I. Akimushkin tell us that those who live underground sometimes come to the surface to "graze". A man, having penetrated only 5 km deep into the earth, cannot now say what is being done at depths of 10, 100, and 1,000 km. In any case, there is air pressure greater than 8 atmospheres. And it is possible that many floating creatures of the times of the Asur biosphere found salvation for themselves precisely under the ground. Periodic media reports about dinosaurs appearing either in the oceans, now in the seas, or in the lakes are evidence of creatures penetrating from the dungeon who have found refuge there. In the tales of many nations, descriptions of three underground kingdoms have been preserved: gold, silver and copper, where the hero of the folk narration consistently falls.

The two and three heads in the Gorynych Snakes could have been

caused by nuclear mutagenesis, which is hereditarily entrenched and inherited. For example, in the USA in San Francisco a woman with two heads gave birth to a two-headed child, i.e. there was a new race of people. Russian epics report that Snake Gorynych was chained like a dog, and on it epic heroes sometimes plowed the ground like on a horse. Therefore, most likely, the three-headed dinosaurs were the main pets of the asuras. It is known that reptiles, which in their development did not go far from dinosaurs, are not amenable to training, but an increase in the number of heads increased general intelligence and reduced aggression.

What was the cause of the nuclear conflict? According to the Vedas, the asuras, i.e. the inhabitants of the earth were big and strong, but they were ruined by gullibility and good nature. In the battle between the Asuras and the gods described by the Vedas, the latter defeated the Asuras with the help of deception, destroyed their flying cities, and they themselves were driven into the ground and to the bottom of the oceans. The presence of pyramids scattered throughout the planet (in Egypt, Mexico, Tibet, India), suggests that the culture was one and the earthlings had no reason to war among themselves. Those whom the Vedas call gods came and came from the sky (from space). The nuclear conflict was most likely a space one. But who and where were those whom the vedas call gods, and the various religions - by the forces of Satan?

Who was the second belligerent?

In 1972, the American station Mariner reached Mars and took more than 3,000 photographs. Of these, 500 were published in the press. At one of them, the world saw a half-destroyed pyramid, as experts estimated, 1.5 km high and a sphinx with a human face. But unlike the Egyptian, who looks in front of him, the Martian sphinx looks to the sky. The pictures were with comments - that this is most likely a game of

natural forces. The rest of the pictures to publish NASA (US Aeronautics and Space Research) did not, referring to the fact that they must, allegedly, "decipher." More than a decade has passed and photographs of another sphinx and pyramid have been published. In the new pictures one could clearly distinguish the Sphinx, the pyramid and the third structure - the remains of the wall of a rectangular structure.

At the sphinx, looking into the sky, a frozen tear rolled out of his eyes. The first thought that could have come to mind was a war between Mars and Earth, and those whom the ancients called gods were humans who colonized Mars. Judging by the remaining dried "channels" (in the past rivers), reaching a width of 50-60 km, the biosphere on Mars in its size and power was no less than the biosphere of the Earth. This led to the idea that the Martian colony decided to secede from its metropolis, which was Earth, just as America had separated from England in the last century, despite the fact that culture was common.

But this idea had to be dropped. The Sphinx and the Pyramid tell us that culture was indeed common, and Mars was indeed colonized by humans. But, like the Earth, it was also subjected to nuclear bombardment and lost its biosphere and atmosphere (the latter today has a pressure of about 0.1 Earth’s atmosphere and consists of 99% of nitrogen, which can be formed, as Gorky’s scientist A. Volgin proved, as a result of life activity organisms). Oxygen on Mars is 0.1%, and carbon dioxide is 0.2% (although there are other data).

Oxygen was destroyed by a nuclear fire, and carbon dioxide was decomposed by the remaining primitive Martian vegetation, which has a reddish color and annually covers a considerable surface during the onset of the Martian summer, which is well observed with a telescope. The red color is due to the presence of xanthine. Similar plants are found on Earth. As a rule, they grow in places of lack of light and could well have been brought by asuras from Mars. Depending on the season, the ratio of

oxygen to carbon dioxide varies, and on the surface in the layer of Martian vegetation the concentration of oxygen can reach several percent.

This enables the existence of a “wild” Martian fauna, which on Mars can have Lilliputian dimensions. People on Mars could not grow more than 6 cm, and dogs and cats due to low atmospheric pressure, would be comparable in size to flies. It is quite possible that the asuras who survived after the war on Mars were reduced to Martian size, in any case, the plot of the “Spalchik Boy” tale widely spread among many nations arose, most likely, not from scratch. At the time of the Atlanteans, who could move on their vimanas not only in the atmosphere of the Earth, but also in space, they could import the remains of Asur civilization from Mars, Boys with a finger, for their own fun. The preserved plots of European fairy tales, as kings settled little people in toy palaces, are still popular among children.

The enormous height of the Martian pyramids (1500 meters) makes it possible to approximately determine the individual dimensions of the asuras. The average size of the Egyptian pyramids is 60 meters, i.e. 30 times more man. Then the average height of the asuras is 50 meters. Virtually all nations have legends about giants, giants and even titans, who, with their height, should have had a corresponding life expectancy. The Greeks, the titans who inhabited the Earth, were forced to fight with the gods. The Bible also writes about the giants who inhabited our planet in the past.

A crying sphinx looking at the sky tells us that it was built after a catastrophe by people (asuras) who had escaped death in Martian dungeons. His appearance calls for help to his brothers who remained on other planets: "We are still alive! Come for us! Help us!" Remains of the Martian civilization of earthlings may still exist. Occurring from time to time mysterious blue flashes on its surface, very much resemble nuclear

explosions. Perhaps the war on Mars is still ongoing.

At the beginning of our century, there was a lot of talk and arguing about the moons of Mars Phobos and Deimos, the idea was expressed that they were artificial, and inside they were hollow, because they rotated much faster than other satellites. This idea may well be confirmed. As reported F.YU. Siegel in his lectures, 4 satellites also rotate around the Earth, which no country has launched, and their orbits are perpendicular to the usually launched orbits of satellites. And if all artificial satellites, by virtue of a small orbit, eventually fall to the Earth, then these 4 satellites are too far from the Earth. Therefore, most likely they remained from the former civilizations.

15,000 years ago, the story stopped for Mars. The scarcity of the remaining species will not allow the Martian biosphere to bloom for a long time.

Sphinx is not addressed to those who were at this time on the way to the stars, they could not help. He was turned to the metropolis - a civilization that was on Earth. Thus, Earth and Mars were on one side. Who was the other?

At the time, VI Vernadsky proved that continents can be formed only due to the presence of the biosphere. There is always a negative balance between the ocean and the continent, i.e. Rivers take to the oceans always less matter than it flows from the oceans. The main force involved in this transfer is not the wind, but living beings, first of all, birds and fish. If it were not for this force, according to Vernadsky, in 18 million years there would be no continents on Earth.

The phenomenon of continentality was discovered on Mars, the Moon and Venus, i.e. on these planets there was once a biosphere. But the Moon, due to its proximity to the Earth, could not withstand the

Earth and Mars. Firstly, because there was no significant atmosphere, therefore, the biosphere was weak. This follows from the fact that the channels of dried rivers found on the Moon cannot be compared with the size of the Earth's rivers (especially Mars). Life could only be exported. Such an exporter could be Earth. Secondly, a thermonuclear blow was also dealt to the Moon, since the American expedition of Apollo.

Secrets of ancient Egyptian statues

The lack of the necessary high-precision equipment, with the help of which numerous ancient Egyptian artifacts could be created, as well as the absence of traces of the industrial infrastructure for its production in Egypt and beyond, indicate that high technologies were introduced from the outside. And here it is not hard to recall the mythological story spread among various nations about the "sons of heaven", who, after performing some humanitarian mission on Earth, return to "their star".

At the turn of the III millennium BC in Egypt, almost from scratch there was an inexplicable technological breakthrough. As if by magic, Egyptians erect pyramids in the shortest possible time and demonstrate unprecedented skills in the processing of solid materials - granite, diorite, obsidian, quartz ... All these miracles occur before the appearance of iron, machine tools and other technical tools. Subsequently, the unique skills of the ancient Egyptians just as rapidly and inexplicably disappear...

STRANGE NEIGHBORHOOD

Take, for example, the story of the Egyptian sarcophagi. They are divided into two groups, which differ dramatically in the quality of

performance. On the one hand, casually made boxes, in which uneven surfaces predominate. On the other hand, multi-ton granite and quartzite containers of an incomprehensible purpose, ground with incredible skill. Often, the processing quality of these sarcophagi is at the limit of modern machine technology.

Ancient Egyptian sculptures made of heavy-duty materials are no less a mystery. In the Egyptian Museum, anyone can see the statue, carved from a single piece of black diorite. The surface of the statue is polished to a mirror shine. Scientists assume that it belongs to the period of the Fourth dynasty (2639-2506 BC) and depicts Pharaoh Khafre, who is credited with building one of the three largest pyramids of Giza.

But bad luck - in those days, the Egyptian masters used only stone and copper tools. Soft limestone such tools can still be processed, but diorite, which is one of the hardest rocks, by no means impossible.

And it still flowers. But the colossi of Memnon, located on the west bank of the Nile, opposite Luxor, are berries. Not only are they made of heavy-duty quartzite, their height reaches 18 meters, and the weight of each statue is 750 tons. In addition, they rest on a quartzite pedestal of 500 tons! It is clear that no devices for transportation would not withstand such a load. Although the statues are badly damaged, the excellent execution of the surviving flat surfaces suggests the use of advanced machine technology.

But even the grandeur of the Colossi is fading in comparison with the wreckage of a giant statue resting in the courtyard of Ramesseum - the memorial temple of Ramses II. Made from a single piece of pink granite, the sculpture reached a height of 19 meters and weighed about 1000 tons! The weight of the pedestal, which once stood a statue, was about 750 tons. The monstrous size of the statue and the highest quality of execution absolutely do not fit into the technological capabilities of

Egypt known to us in the period of the New Kingdom (1550-1070 BC), which is dated by modern science.

But Ramesseum itself is fully consistent with the technical level of the time: statues and temple buildings were created mostly of soft limestone and do not shine with construction delights.

We see the same picture with the colossi of Memnon, whose age is determined by the remnants of the memorial church located behind them. As in the case of the Ramesseum, the quality of this structure, to put it mildly, does not shine with high technology - unbaked brick and roughly adjusted limestone, and that’s all the masonry.

Such an incongruous neighborhood can be explained only by the fact that the pharaohs simply attached their temple complexes to the monuments left over from a much more ancient and highly developed civilization.

EYES STATUES

Another mystery is connected with the ancient Egyptian statues. We are talking about eyes made of pieces of rock crystal, which were inserted, as a rule, in limestone or wooden sculptures. The quality of the lenses is so high that thoughts about turning and grinding machines come by themselves.

The eyes of the wooden statue of Pharaoh Chora, like the eyes of a living person, look either blue or gray depending on the angle of illumination and even imitate the capillary structure of the retina! Research by Professor Jay Enoch of the University of Berkeley showed the amazing closeness of these glass dummies to the shape and optical properties of the real eye.

The American researcher believes that Egypt reached its greatest skill in lens processing by about 2500 BC. e. After this, such a wonderful technology for some reason ceases to be used and subsequently forgotten altogether. The only rational explanation is that the Egyptians borrowed quartz blanks for eye models from somewhere, and when the reserves dried up, the “technology” was also interrupted.

HOW DID THE GODS LOOK?

The ancient Greek historian Diodorus of Sicily wrote 'from the words of the Egyptian priests that mortals ruled Egypt for less than 5 thousand years. The kingdom of people was preceded by the power of gods and heroes who ruled for an incredible 18 thousand years. The ancient Egyptian priest and historian Manetho also begins his list of rulers of Egypt from the dynasty of gods and demigods.

If we compare the statements of ancient authors and the facts that we have at the moment, it turns out that there was no technological breakthrough. Just starting from the III millennium BC. e. artifacts from the first divine dynasties began to emerge in Egypt. It is not excluded that the pharaohs purposefully searched, tried to master and at the same time assign the surviving fragments of this heritage.

About the appearance of the original creators of ancient masterpieces can tell the sculptural images of the daughters of the pharaoh-reformer Akhenaton. The first thing that catches your eye is the unnaturally elongated shape of the skull, which is characteristic, by the way, for other works of the Amarnian period. This phenomenon spawned a hypothesis about the congenital disease of the family of Pharaoh. However, no mental abnormalities in the family of the ruler, which inevitably should cause such a disease, are not mentioned anywhere.

If the pharaohs were indeed distant descendants of the gods, it is

possible that from time to time they could manifest "divine" genes. Is not the anatomical feature of the gods associated with the custom of deformation of the head common among various peoples?

Another important and mysterious detail of the ancient Egyptian sculptural canon is the absolute symmetry of the proportions of the face. As is known, there are no symmetrical objects in nature. This rule applies to the human body. Moreover, experiments have shown that photographs composed of strictly symmetrical halves of the same person cause an instinctive rejection in a person.

It throws something unnatural and alien to human nature in them. But, maybe, in that world, from where the gods came, reigned other natural conditions, thanks to which the “anomaly” became the norm? Anyway, we should listen carefully to the words of Plutarch: "It is not the one who denies the existence of the gods that falls into greater blasphemy, but the one who recognizes them as what their superstitious people consider."

Mysterious beauty Nefertiti

The majestic profile of Nefertiti saw, probably, everything. But information about the personality of this beauty is so contradictory that it is very difficult to present a complete picture. And still let's try ...

Pharaoh's “Right Hand”

By the end of the 15th century BC, the caste of Egyptian priests owned enormous riches. In addition, they were the most educated part of the population: they knew how to predict the floods of the Nile, make maps of the starry sky and the calendar, knew how to calculate the areas of geometric shapes. Sensing the power, the priests began to dictate their

demands for royal power.

At the turn of the XV and XIV centuries BC, an open conflict occurred. Pharaoh Amenhotep IV declared the old gods false and introduced the cult of the one god of the Sun - Aten. The former temples were closed, their property was confiscated. The king left the old capital, Thebes, and moved to a new one, which he called Ahetaton (“the horizon of Aton”), and he himself adopted the new name Akhenaten (“useful to Aton”).

In the spring of 1965, an American amateur archaeologist, former diplomat Ray Winfield Smith, discovered about 16,000 fragments of limestone on the territory of ancient Thebes, in Karnak, with fragments of inscriptions, images of hands, heads, the sun disk and rays emanating from it. Smith hired photographers who took pictures of each fragment, and then went to museums in different cities and countries to search and shoot other fragments of similar origin. The result was about 40,000 photos. Computer analysis allowed to select from them those that approached each other as pieces of a puzzle - a children's puzzle.

When the images and inscriptions were partially recreated, we managed to understand the role that the beautiful Nefertiti played in introducing the cult of Aton (“the beauty is coming”).

After examining the materials collected by Smith, the Munich historian Philip Vandenberg found that the name and images of Nefertiti, and not Akhenaton, are much more common on the walls of the temple. The researcher came to the conclusion that she was the true ruler in the kingdom of the eccentric pharaoh.

Versions of origin and the beginning of "career"

Information on the origin of Nefertiti, contained in various sources, is very contradictory. To date, there are several versions.

According to one of the most common, Nefertiti is the daughter of King Mitanni, a state in Upper Mesopotamia, one of Egypt’s main allies at the time.

According to another version, she is the daughter of one of the nobles of the royal court. It is also possible that she was the daughter of Ey, brother of Taye, wife of Pharaoh Amenhotep III, father of Akhenaton. Then it turns out that Nefertiti was the niece of Taye and her husband's cousin. Another legend says: Nefertiti may also have been the daughter of Amenhotep III, but from another wife.

To what has been said, it remains only to add such a seemingly almost unbelievable episode in the life of a young, "beginning" queen.

At the age of fifteen, she allegedly was married to an aging Pharaoh Amenhotep III. Two years later, the old monarch died, and Nefertiti became the wife of his 12-year-old son, Amenhotep IV, whose mother, Taye, enjoyed great influence at the court.

By the way, she, like Nefertiti (according to one of the versions), came from the royal family of Mitanni, where it was decided that the queens should participate in the government.

Incest according to the classical scheme?

On one of the bas-reliefs, archaeologists found an image of Ehnaton, Taye and her daughter, Princess Bekaton, whose father could not be the royal husband of Taye, Amenhotep III, because he died four years before the girl was born. Most likely, Bekaton's father was ... Akhenaten, son of Taye!

This incestuous connection, suggests the American psychologist Immanuel Velikovsky, could serve as a historical source for the Greek

myth of King Oedipus and his "Oedipal complex." According to Vandenberg, such an unusual "love triangle" did not prevent Nefertiti from exercising political and religious government by the state, and it was she who played the leading role in establishing the cult of the god Aton. And the victory in the fight against the all-powerful priests of the former Egyptian gods speaks of the great political power of Nefertiti.

Family and government affairs

The young couple, as can be seen from the numerous wall images, led a luxurious and happy family life. Three of their daughters, born in the first three years of marriage, are constantly depicted surrounded by their parents. All in all, Nefertiti and Akhenat had six daughters.

In the fourth year of their life together, Amenhotep IV begins to build a new capital on the site of the modern town of Tel el-Amarna in Central Egypt. For three years, they built magnificent shrines, residences and tombs, paving stone alleys and planting trees. When construction was completed in 1357 BC, Aketaton became the grandest building of the ancient world of that time.

In the thirteenth year of the reign, Akhenaten suddenly announces Semnehkar as his co-regent? - the husband of his eldest daughter Meritaton. After that, the star Nefertiti in the political horizon fades. There is reason to assume that Semnehkar? He not only fought for power with her, but also challenged Akhenaton’s love with her.

Something from personal life

It seems that in the last period of matrimonial life, the queen-beauty was surrounded by a swarm of fans. During these years, living in her palace, she gave birth to three more daughters - all from different fathers.

But far from all who sought intimacy with her, Nefertiti was supportive. In 1971, they found three clay tablets, which were like three pictures from a drawn comic strip. They show how the master of ceremonies, Umihanko, approaches Nefertiti with the intention of hugging her and, as ordered by an angry queen, is harnessed to a carriage loaded with stones and driven out into a waterless desert where he dies after 10 days.

Probably, this unfortunate suitor was not the only adore she rejected. The famous bust of Nefertiti, found by the court sculptor Tutmes, found on the site of the ruins of Ahetaton depicts a queen with only one eye. But in general, the bust does not seem unfinished. Vandenberg believes that the absence of the left eye means an expression of the artist's impotent revenge, who has inflamed a passion for a capricious beauty, who did not reciprocate him.

Despite the success in men, Nefertiti herself no longer married. But she gave one of her daughters, the youngest, Anhesenpaaton, to Pharaoh Tutankhaton, who was 11 at the time. Soon the new ruler leaves Ahetaton, moves with his court back to Thebes, returns the cult of the old gods, takes a new name - Tutankhamun? and dies in 1349 BC at the age of about 20 years.

And after nearly 3,300 years, the archaeologist Howard Carter finds the tomb of this young pharaoh, in which, apart from his mummy, are priceless works of art, now known throughout the world as "the treasures of the tomb of Tutankhamen."

According to the officially accepted version, Nefertiti died 34 years old, probably during a plague epidemic. Her tomb has not been found so far. If it is ever found, scientists will undoubtedly receive new information about both the life and death of this highly mysterious

woman.

Another bold guess ...

Meanwhile, there is a very original hypothesis about the fate of Nefertiti in the last years of her life. Researcher Nicholas Reeves argues that the disappearance of Nefertiti at the end of the rule of Akhenaten can almost certainly be considered its promotion as co-ruler and heir of Pharaoh, but under a different name.

In that case, Rivs is sure, is she that mysterious pharaoh of Semnehkar? Egyptologists, to the extent that there was an assumption about the unconventional sexual orientation of both "royal persons".

The strange asexual colossi of Akhnaton are thus sculptural images of Nefertiti, seated on a throne in the form of a pharaoh.

... and no less daring hypothesis

It is known that before the death of Akhnaton, an epidemic of some disease struck Egypt, which took the lives of many people. Former priests of the "retired" gods declared that they were true gods, rejected by pharaoh heretic, and sent cruel punishment on the country. Most Egyptians took such statements seriously. Brewing distemper.

In such a situation, the eldest daughter of Nefertiti Meritaton and her new husband (Semenkhara was no longer alive) at the head of a large detachment of their supporters left the country on several ships.

After a long voyage along the southern and western shores of the Mediterranean, with long stops on land (traces of which are discovered by archaeologists), the flotilla sailed to the Atlantic and headed along the coast to the north.

All this is clearly traced in the historical chronicles of various peoples and countries, where Meritaton is called Scott, and her spouse is Gayytelos.

In the end, the expedition settled in what is now Scotland. Relations with the Aborigines, in general, peaceful, sometimes exacerbated, flared up clashes, sometimes growing into real battles. In one of these battles Scott died. And her warriors, later mingling with the Aborigines, became an integral part of the country's population, called Scott Land, Scotland - Scotland.

Legends about the gods who flew in winged chariots

Plunging into the past, you come to the inevitable conclusion that the ancient people had incredible knowledge. The areas in which there was such a surprisingly high level of knowledge are countless. Let us dwell on one thing - aviation. Yes, the ancients undoubtedly had not only theoretical, but also practical knowledge of aviation. And there is a lot of evidence. Thus, in Egypt, a wooden model of a flying bird, made 25 centuries ago, was discovered. When a large copy of it was made, it turned out that the "bird of the pharaohs" possesses all the properties of a modern glider.

Due to the carefully maintained aerodynamic profile, it freely soars and plans in the air. "The Egyptians never made models without the original," one ancient Egyptian art expert commented on this fact. Therefore, one has to admit the idea that in ancient Egypt something that resembled a modern glider could be known.

Different nations have traditions about gods and heroes who lived in remote times and were able to move through the air in winged chariots. In the literature of the Vedas there was even a term by which

the aircraft were designated: "vimana" and "agnihotra." To construct such aircraft, inverter welding machines are required. Agnihotra is a ship that rises into the sky. But what is important is that some of the texts that have come down to us provide a fairly detailed and realistic description of not only the appearance, but also the design of aircraft. Many sources mention that the flight was accompanied by a loud sound. “When morning came,” we read in the ancient Indian epic Ramayana, “Rama got into a heavenly chariot, which Pushpaka sent him with Vivpishanda, and got ready to fly. This chariot moved by itself. It was big and beautifully painted. She had two floors with many rooms and windows ... When the chariot made its way in the air, it made a monophonic sound. " At the moment of departure, however, the sound was different: "At the command of Rama, this beautiful chariot rose into the air with a loud noise." Elsewhere we read that when the flying chariot was rising, "the roar filled all four sides of the horizon."

In one of the ancient Sanskrit books it is said that at the moment of departure the chariot "roars like a lion." Did not a Chinese source mention such a device, saying that in the sixth year of the Tien Shen era, "in the summer, in the fourth moon, a measure-sized star in 1 dow rolled down with a sound like thunder from north to south-west, illuminating the whole of Celestial. " In other cases, on the contrary, the soundlessness of the flight is emphasized. Perhaps we are talking about different flight modes or different types of these devices.

During the flight, fire was visible. In the epics of ancient India it is said that the heavenly chariot shone, "as the fire on a summer night," was, "as a comet in the sky," "burned like a red fire" ("Ramayana"), "was as a guiding light moving in space "; it was "set in motion by winged lightning", "the whole sky was lit when it flew over it" ("Mahabharata"), two streams of flame emanated from it.

The memory of some “fiery ships” - “waffles”, which left behind

them a “whirlwind of rushing sparks”, preserved the traditions of the Vikings.

But even more amazing descriptions of the internal structure of aircraft. The Sanskrit poetic source "Samarangan Sutradhara" as much as 230 stanzas devotes to the description of the device of aircraft and their application: "Strong and durable should be his body, made of lightweight material, like a large flying bird. Inside, you should put devices with mercury and a heating device under it. Through the power that lurks in mercury and which drives the carrying vortex, the person inside this chariot can fly long distances across the sky in a most amazing way.

Having entered it, a person can, like a double-winged bird, climb into the blue of the sky ". There are, as the source claims, huge, like a temple." On four sides, according to the established rules (law, instructions), place large tanks filled with mercury. True, the translation of the Sanskrit word as "mercury" is very approximate. This word has many other meanings: quintessence, substance, elixir. In addition, this is an alchemical term, i.e., rather a symbol, followed by a meaning revealed only by who knows the key to it.

Rising, vimana immediately turned into a "pearl in the sky." Tibetan sacred texts, referring to the aircraft, also compare them with the "pearls in the sky."

But another Sanskrit source, Ghatotrachabadma, describes the aircraft: “It was a huge and terrible black-made air chariot ... It was equipped with devices located in the proper places. Neither horses nor elephants carried it was driven by devices that were elephant sized. "Another source says that copper, iron, and lead are used to build such an apparatus. Some sources mention black vimanas, others point out that they had a metallic surface: the heavenly chariot, "shining like gold" ("Ramayana"). Obviously, if there are some real memories behind these

messages, there were several kinds of similar devices. And sources confirm this.

Judging by some descriptions, the device was rounded: the airship Mahapadma (“Big Lotus”), mentioned by Somadevabhatta (XI century), the “shining ship” of the Polynesian myths, on which the god Kane-milhai moved, was shaped like a shell.

These devices had numerous rooms, windows, and seats. These devices could soar, hovering in the air, and move over great distances "in the blink of an eye," "with the speed of thought." The last comparison belongs to Homer, who mentioned the people who lived in the North and traveled on these amazing ships. (The memory of the Wulfen, fiery ships from the traditions of the Vikings, which they met in northern latitudes.)

Other Greek authors also wrote about the people who supposedly knew the secret of flying in the air. This people lived, Hyperborea, in the North, and the sun rose over them only once a year. The memory of the sun, which rose once a year, brought with them the Aryans, who came to India 4,000 years ago, from their unknown ancestral homeland. They brought with them information about the aircraft, which we find in Sanskrit sources.

Several images have been preserved and reached us, which can be interpreted as a memory of such devices. They convey, of course, not their appearance, but the very idea of traveling in the air, outside the Earth, among the stars. In the tomb of Montemhet, 7th c. BC, depicts a heavenly ship (boat), flying over the stars and among the stars. The man depicted in it holds the symbol of life in one hand, death in the other.

The Sumerians depict a man in the same heavenly boat between the star and the Sun. On the territory of Peru in pre-Columbian America, they found an image of a stylized bipedal creature adorned with the signs

of the “stepped throne”, a frequently found attribute of the Egyptian goddess Isis.

The Chinese chariot drawing depicts it flying above the clouds. Attention stops one detail: a circle in front and behind the chariot. What is it? If the wheels, then they would have to be on the sides. The Chinese alchemist and adept of the secret sciences, Ko Hunt, wrote in 320 AD that "some made chariots of the air." At the same time, he mentioned rotating blades (blades) that "set this device in motion." Perhaps these words are related to the stylized circle, which is visible in the picture.

Quite often, the ancients tried to hide certain knowledge, to protect them from the uninitiated. It would be strange if this was not done in relation to the chariots and their devices. At the time of Emperor Cheng-Tang (XVIII century BC), a certain of his subjects produced a flying chariot and, testing it, took to the air. A fair wind carried him to the neighboring province. What does the emperor - gladly accepts the discovery made? By no means. According to the Chinese Chronicle, Cheng-Tang "ordered the destruction of the chariot so that [its secret] would not become known to the people."

A Sanskrit source argues such forethought as follows: "The construction of these devices must be kept secret so that [this knowledge] does not fall into the hands of ignorant people. For this reason, knowledge bearing such fruits should not be made public, they should not be shared."

Perhaps these fears were not built from scratch. Some ancient texts mention the use of aircraft for military purposes. The descriptions of the battle scenes that they give are made as if from nature, as an eyewitness could do: “We noticed something in the sky that resembled a flaming cloud similar to the tongues of fire. From it came a huge black vimana that brought down down a multitude of sparkling (glowing) projectiles.

The roar they made was like thunder from thousands of drums. Wimana approached the earth at inconceivable speed and released a multitude of projectiles sparkling like gold, thousands of lightning, followed by violent explosions and hundreds of fire vortexes. Army Enough of panic, fell to the ground the horses, war elephants and lots of soldiers killed by explosions. The army fled, and terrible vimana pursued him until he has destroyed "(" Mahabharata ", Karnaparvana). And this source was created more than four thousand years ago!

Concerns that aircraft can be used for evil are also found in later texts. A European author wrote in 1670: "The Lord will never allow such a device to be created; in order to avert many of the consequences that could destroy civil and political rule among the people." Further, he listed the actions of the airship - he can drop bombs, bring down "artificial fire" from above, even, in the current language, "disembark landing".

The aforementioned ancient Egyptian "model of a glider" as a kind of material, substantive principle, fits into such messages. Other indirect evidence, perhaps from the same series - the so-called "Inca roads", discovered some time ago in the Andes. Aerial photography showed that this is not so much a road, as a system of huge, properly formed geometric and other figures, visible only from a certain height. The sides of triangles, parallel lines of impeccable accuracy, stretch for 10-15 kilometers! Some shapes are repeated in a clear sequence. A number of scientists believe that in the Andes there is the greatest astronomical calendar of the world, where the lines express various astronomical patterns and the paths of stars. Recently, similar huge figures, distinguishable only from the air, were found in the Peruvian deserts of De Maya and De Sihua.

Scientists refer them to the pre-Inca period. Do we have the right to assume that these gigantic, visible only from a height images could have

something to do with the aircraft? It turns out that in America we can also find messages that make you think. The sacred book of the Indians Quiche Popol Vuh tells about the four forefathers of this nation, who, seeing something in the sky, began to say goodbye to their relatives and wives and climbed to the top of the mountain. "We are going back to our people," they said. "We have completed our task, our days are running out." These people, the text says, "immediately after that disappeared there, on the top of Mount Khakavits. They were not buried by their wives or their children, because it was not visible when they disappeared."

In Central America, there is a legend about a certain mighty mistress, nicknamed the "Flying Tigress", which brought people knowledge. And after a while she ordered to take herself to the top of the mountain, where she "disappeared amid thunder and lightning." These legends are surprisingly reminiscent of others that have arisen in a region very remote from these places - in Southeast Asia. And here and there we are talking about some enlighteners who moved on aircraft and at the end of their "mission" were removed on these aircraft. Candidate of Historical Sciences I. Lisevich, in particular, tells in his publication about such reports from ancient Chinese sources.

In the ancient dictionary "Guandi", he says, four types of aircraft are described. One of them, in which the enlightener-newcomer of the ancient Chinese legends Huandi, moved, cast metal and had wings. Before the flight, he "collected water". About another device it is known that when he was abandoned, his "head", which continued to radiate heat, was buried with great caution in the ground. A pair of clouds, which the locals had worshiped for many years, were knocked out of the burial site. When the time came, Huangdi, like the other enlighteners, left the place where he had arrived. "... from above," says an ancient text, "the dragon descended after Huangi with his mustache hanging down. Huangi ascended the dragon, all his assistants and families followed him.

(There were more than 70 people who ascended. The rest of the subjects could not ascend grabbed a mustache. The mustache broke off and they fell [to the ground] "

In a number of ancient Indian texts mentioning aircraft, it also speaks of flight altitude. In order to show how high the hero rose on his air chariot, it is reported that he took off "above the realm of the winds".

Can we, modern people, admit the idea that representatives of some previous terrestrial civilization possessed the knowledge necessary to try to reach other planets? Of course, this is hard to believe. Here is what the sources say: "Through these devices (devices, devices)," we read in the Sanskrit text, "the inhabitants of the earth can rise into the air, and the celestial inhabitants go down to the earth." On these devices, it was possible to move within the “Suryamandala” - the solar region (Solar System?) And the “Nakshramandala” - the star region.

According to legends, the air chariots of the ancient Celts could also ascend into the sky, where there are amazing lands, "palaces of the gods". A number of reports of visits by certain people to these "palaces of the gods" located outside the limits of the earth have been preserved. Taoists mention some kind of "perfect man" Than Jan, who visited other planets and learned there wisdom and knowledge. Ancient texts claim that Huangdi, mentioned earlier, retired with his companions to the star Regulus (the constellation of Leo). There is another interesting detail in these messages. One of those flying there accepted something, after which "he died temporarily and was revived already after 200 years." According to some theorists, during long space flights that exceed the duration of human life, people will also plunge into some kind of anabiosis, temporary death - biological time will stop for them, as it were. The distance between Regulus and the Solar System is 85 light years.

Among the early Christian apocryphal books there is the notorious Book of Enoch, or the Book of the Secrets of Enoch. It tells how Enoch was taken for some time on certain lands lying in the sky. There he was taught the basics of astronomical knowledge: the order of movement of the Sun, the reasons for reducing the day and lengthening the night, the lunar calendar, the phases and the movement of the Moon. “And Vretil,” Enoch writes, “taught me 30 days and 30 nights, and his mouth never stopped talking. And I did not stop writing comments for 30 days and 30 nights.” This knowledge was taught to Enoch, so that when he returned, he would inform them on earth to people. And again an amazing detail. When Enoch returned, his children became older than him. Today we know that this is possible if the space traveler moves at a speed close to the speed of light: for him time passes many times slower than for those remaining on the Earth. But how could the ancients know about it? Are some other strange messages that have reached us related to this?

One of the translations of an Egyptian manuscript written 15 centuries BC and containing the official chronicle of the reign of Pharaoh Thutmosis III, says that to the horror of all "in the 22nd year, in the third month of winter, at six o'clock in the afternoon a huge thing appeared forms that slowly moved south. " Approximately the same period dates back to the ancient Persian message about a certain man who built a complex aircraft and moved it through the air. Another report dates back to the 13th century, more precisely, to the year 1290.

In the Latin manuscript of one of the English monasteries it says that once over the heads of frightened monks, who chased the monastic herd along the way, "a huge, oval silver body appeared that looked like a disk, which slowly flew over them, causing great horror." Did not the scientist and philosopher Roger Bacon (1214-1294) write about such devices, who was imprisoned for his commitment to "secret knowledge"? "Science makes it possible to create devices that can develop enormous speeds, without masts and requiring no more than one person to control."

Bacon stressed that moving such devices without the help of animals. “A device could also be created,” he wrote, “capable of moving in the air, with the person inside it.” He also has an important confession, which may have something to do with what our story is about today. "The aircrafts that the ancients had," wrote Bacon, "are being manufactured today as well." In this connection, the following episode can be cited, about which the French chronicle de Gabalis Discourses (1670) tells.

Referring to the appearance of some "flying ships", the chronicle reports that once in Lyon "three men and one woman descended to earth from this flying ship. The whole city gathered around them, shouting that they were sorcerers sent by Grimaldi, Duke of Benevento, the enemy of Charlemagne, in order to destroy the harvest in France. Four innocent people tried in vain to justify themselves, saying that they were local, that they were carried away shortly before this amazing people, who showed them unprecedented miracles and lowered them back to tell them about nd what they saw. "

And here is the curious testimony of the famous Italian Renaissance sculptor Benvenuto Cellini, whom he mentions in his book. Once during the journey, he and his companion "looked towards Florence, and both of us gave a great cry of amazement, saying:" O God, heavenly, what kind of a great body can you see above Florence? "It was like a fiery log, which sparkled and made great shine."

Closer to us the mention of such aircraft we find in the famous Russian artist Nicholas Roerich. In his book "The Heart of Asia," devoted to traveling to the foothills of the Himalayas, he wrote: "A sunny cloudless morning sparkles a clear blue sky. A huge dark kite is rapidly sweeping through our camp. Our Mongols and we are watching it. But here is one of the Buryat lamas raises his hand to the blue sky:

"What is it there? White balloon? Airplane? "And we notice: at a high altitude, something brilliant is moving from north to south. Three strong binoculars were brought from the tents. We observed a voluminous spheroidal body glistening in the sun, clearly visible among the blue sky. It moves very quickly. Then we notice how it changes direction more towards the south-west and hides behind Humbolt's snow chain. The whole camp follows an unusual phenomenon. "

Is it possible to think that these are the surviving traces of the once-existing civilization, the very "aircraft that the ancients had", as Roger Bacon wrote about? Perhaps, in this connection, it would be possible to mention some messages that have recently appeared in print. But what is important: today we can speak not only about the words of witnesses, not only about the impression of eyewitnesses. There are "material traces". In 1976, on the banks of the Vaksha River, Komi ASSR, local residents found an incomprehensible fragment, with a fist of magnitude, cast in white. As soon as he was scratched or knocked, sparks poured from the impact area.

A strange subject, fortunately, fell into the hands of scientists. They were engaged in the All-Union Research Institute of Nuclear Geophysics and Geochemistry, Institute of Physical Problems. S.I. Vavilov, Institute of Geochemistry and Analytical Chemistry. IN AND. Vernadsky Academy of Sciences of the USSR, the Moscow Institute of Steel and Alloys and some other scientific divisions. The fragment turned out to be a fragment of a ring, cylinder or sphere with a diameter of 1.2 m, of unknown origin and of incomprehensible purpose. This item was made no more than 100 thousand years ago (the uranium represented in it has no decay products). The decay products of thorium talk about a closer date. However, the main mystery is different: in the composition of the debris. In his study, precision gamma-spectrometric analysis methods were used, including neutron activation, neutron-radiation, X-ray radiometric methods. The object turned out to consist of an alloy of rare-

earth elements: cerium - 67.2%, lanthanum - 10.9%, neodymium - 8.78%, and a certain amount of iron and magnesium.

Among the impurities were found uranium and molybdenum. Conclusion of scientists: an alloy of artificial origin. On Earth, natural materials with similar composition and characteristics do not exist. Moreover, in terrestrial conditions, atmospheric oxygen usually reacts with iron and oxidizes it; therefore, in alloys, as a rule, its oxidic forms are found. Iron is present in the fragment, but there is not the slightest trace of its oxide forms. Does this mean that the alloy was made outside the earth?

On the other hand, the analysis of the isotopic composition with an accuracy of hundredths of a percent corresponds to the terrestrial relationships. Conclusion of scientists: with high probability we can assume that the alloy was made on our planet (or within the solar system). But on the Earth today does not exist, it turns out, necessary for this technology. The alloy was made of powder, the smallest particles of which consisted of only a few hundred atoms. It was made by cold pressing at a pressure of hundreds of thousands of atmospheres. Our civilization has not yet created and has not approached this equipment that could have pressed parts with similar pressure and of such size.

The announcement of this find, made, as already mentioned, in 1976, at the beginning of 1985 was published in the newspaper Socialist Industry. Secretary of the Department of Physical Chemistry and Technology of Inorganic Materials of the USSR Academy of Sciences Academician N.M. Zhavoronkov commented on this message as follows: “A sample with the obtained composition could well have been obtained under terrestrial conditions. Based on the available materials, we can say that the sample found is not a natural mineral, but an alloy of artificial origin. The question is under what conditions and for what purposes it was received and part of what design it is, subject to objective study. "As

you can see, orthodox scientists again close their eyes to the obvious.

One conclusion can be made from the foregoing: on our planet when there was a mighty civilization (or even civilization), which had in its arsenal aircraft heavier than air. But what does all this have to do with us? Maybe it is worth considering why this civilization disappeared? Perhaps because of some fatal mistakes in their development? Then we need to study these errors and not repeat them. So that later our descendants would not consider our planes and marvel at them: well, they say how powerful people were...

Silver Fog of Manila Bay

On December 7, 1941, Japanese aircraft dealt a crushing blow to the Pearl Harbor naval base. On the same day, imperial bombers violently attacked US airfields located in the Philippines. Two weeks later, on December 22, the troops of Emperor Hirohito landed on the Philippine coast at Lingen Bay and began to move forward fairly quickly and confidently.

"Small money

The Japanese attack on the Philippines happened so suddenly that the Americans did not even have time to evacuate the country's national treasures. Gold of the pro-American government in the amount of about two million dollars and a small part of silver (about three hundred and sixty thousand dollars) were already delivered in February by a submarine to San Francisco. However, April came, and the remaining “fines” - seventeen million silver pesos - were still packed in wooden boxes on the Philippine island of Correhidor, and it was not possible to remove it. Manila Bay, in which the island is located, was subjected to regular raids by Japanese aviation.

Not a single ship even dared to put a nose there. In addition, the enemy quickly attacked, capturing one island after another. Given the circumstances, the US military decided to bury the remaining four hundred and twenty-five tons of silver right in Manila Bay "until better times." The Bay of Caballo turned out to be the right place, the most inconvenient for diving work, if the enemy decided to carry them out. For ten nights in a row, the exhausted sailors loaded endless boxes onto the barge, and then, taking the ship to the point chosen by the command, simply dumped their precious cargo into the water.

On May 6, a week after the work was completed, the remnants of the American army, defending the last military base on Correhidor Island, ceased resistance and surrendered to the Japanese.

The participants of the secret operation were taken prisoner. Needless to say, they all together were silent about the treasure buried at the bottom of the bay. But whether Japanese intelligence worked well enough, or if one of the Aborigines relied on solid remuneration for such valuable information, however, a week after the occupation, the Japanese knew perfectly well what to look for and where.

"Invited" by the occupiers as divers, six local residents dive for silver for long. Unaccustomed to working at great depths, they too quickly rose to the surface, as a result of which two Filipinos soon died in terrible agonies of decompression sickness. The third, due to the inability to use a diving helmet, simply choked on the bottom. Having managed to get a small fraction of the treasure - eighteen boxes of several thousand, the other Aboriginal people completely refused to dive further and were sent by the Japanese to jail "for re-education."

Death squad

However, Japanese intelligence, apparently, well aware of the number of silver buried at the bottom of the Manila Bay, was not at all about to give up. Investigators promptly “figured out” professional divers from among American prisoners of war and quickly made a team of them, ready to continue the work begun on pain of the death penalty. The “recruits” even created quite tolerable living conditions: they were given a barge as a dwelling, decently fed and provided a lot of free time for rest.

The American sailors were faced with a difficult task: on the one hand, there is no desire to help the enemy, but on the other hand, the refusal threatens to be shot immediately. What to do? And then the Americans developed their own treasure mining plan...

The first dive brought some dismay to the divers. In a hurry, the boxes were literally poured into one heap, and its location was clearly marked on the Japanese maps. So the opportunity to refer to the difficulty of the search was gone - the silver lay in full view. The only thing that comforted: restless waters and completely dilapidated diving equipment, which excluded the presence of a spy underwater. And therefore the Americans, demonstrating on the surface willingness to cooperate, radically changed their behavior, being in their native element. Calmly and unhurriedly, as long as possible, the diver clung to the regular box launched into the rope, then with a sharpened steel strip he slightly “corrected” his wooden walls. Before the eyes of the Japanese, silver reached the surface unharmed, but as soon as it was airborne, the bottom of the box collapsed under the weight of the contents, and small silver coins rained back to the bottom of the bay in a cheerful rain. Divers answered unpleasant questions that the tree was initially dilapidated, and the boxes simply began to rot.

Some boxes to lull suspicion, safely rose to the surface, but here it was not without tricks. Americans frankly appropriated a part of the

treasure even under water, hiding coins under their clothes in specially made bags.

Underwater trading

The question immediately arose: what to do with the money thus obtained? It was extremely dangerous to keep them - it is worth it for the Japanese to arrange a search and find at least one silver coin, and the consequences are not difficult to predict. Therefore, it was decided to put money into circulation. Taking advantage of a certain freedom, the Americans were able to negotiate with the locals. Now, each diver, being under water - and, accordingly, out of sight of the occupants, attached bags with mined silver to the bottom of the barge. With the onset of the evening the barge with divers and equipment was towed back to the parking lot to the shore. And already there, deep at night, the locals dived under the ship and filmed the next "harvest".

Literally in a couple of months, the markets of Manila - the capital of the Philippines - were supersaturated with silver. The Japanese yen began to fall sharply, and soon the occupants were surprised to see that it was impossible to buy even a pack of cigarettes for the monthly salary of a Japanese soldier in local shops. Somehow, the Philippine pesos even ended up in prisoner of war camps and successfully changed food and cigarettes.

The first suspicions, naturally, fell on the divers, but repeated searches did not lead to anything. However, control has intensified. There were even volunteers among the Japanese who were ready to go down with the Americans to the bottom. The divers are somewhat depressed, but here the elements came to their aid.

For ten days a brutal storm raged on the sea. Huge waves scattered the remaining boxes at the bottom of the entire water area of the bay, and

some of them were even cast ashore, which did not fail to take advantage of the aborigines. Now divers quite sincerely reported that it was impossible to find anything at the bottom.

Silver Bay

The treasure extraction operation that lasted for almost half a year had to be stopped. The Americans were sent back to the camp, to which they, frankly, were overwhelmingly happy.

As for silver, the Japanese, apparently, were able to pick up about half of the flooded treasures. Immediately after the war, the US naval forces reappeared in the Manila Bay and undertook the search for the remaining values. Several months of work brought two and a half million dollars, but were soon discontinued for unprofitability. In 1947, two enterprising Yankees signed a contract for underwater work with the Philippine government and were able to extract silver for another two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Apparently, the rest of the silver in the amount of about four and a half million dollars was evenly distributed across the endless waters of the bay.

Caballo Bay does not seduce serious treasure seekers who dream of big chests of gold or more modest jewelry boxes, but with diamonds. But for those who like to indulge in scuba diving, this is quite an attractive place. In the golden sand no-no and the silver coin flashes. There are still very, very many of them left...

White Indians - descendants of the Atlanteans

The indigenous people of America still keep the memory of a deity named Kon-Tiki-Viraco-cha, who was portrayed as a white-bearded man in a long robe. The Spanish conquistadors, seeing for the first time the

statue of Viracocha in the Peruvian temple, even took him for Saint Bartholomew, who is incomprehensible how he came to be in the wild Peru ...

According to myths, Viracocha came from the sea. Some tribes called him Inga Viracocha, which means "sea foam". With him were other white bearded people of enormous height. They climbed reed boats to the shores of Lake Titicaca and built the large stone city of Tiahuanaco. From there, Viracocha sent messengers who were to teach the local population the wisdom of the gods. Kon-Tiki also called himself a god and claimed that it was he who created the world. However, not everyone believed him, and then offended Viracocha, together with his associates, descended to the Pacific Ocean and went to the west, where the sun sets ...

The traditions of the white god have been preserved by many tribes. Legends of Chibcha that lived in the mountains of Colombia mention the white teacher Bochik (his name was also Sua - “The Sun”). He came from the east and ruled these people for many years. The territory of modern Venezuela was allegedly visited by the white wanderer - Tsuma, who taught the locals farming. To the Kuna Indians, living north of Colombia and Venezuela, in the Panama Canal area, the white god appeared after a great flood. He taught the tribe various crafts.

The Mexican Aztecs gave the white deity the name Quetzalcoatl. He became the ruler of Tollan and introduced his laws, banning wars and human sacrifices, as well as the killing of animals. His subjects did not eat meat, eating only plant food. But here, according to legend, the diabolical forces intervened, forcing Quetzalcoatl to wallow in sins. Repenting, God decided to leave his state. He went south, before this, with the help of his supernatural gift, having made the birds fly away from these places forever, and the trees turned into thorny bushes ...

Maya Indians gave the white god the name Kukulkan. He and his 12 students built the pyramids and founded the cities of Mayapan and Chichen Itza, taught the Mayans to use weapons, and then left the country, going west ...

If we compare all these legends, it becomes clear that the path of the mysterious white bearded man and his assistants lay across Central and South America from the coast of Yucatan to the coast of Peru, and then across the sea to the west, towards Polynesia ...

This information indirectly confirms the archaeological finds. Thus, fragments of frescoes depicting battles between red-skinned warriors and white people with big beards and helmets on their heads were found in the temple of the war in Chichen Itza ... Traces of fortifications built according to local Cherokee Indians, white people preserved on the territory of Karolina once inhabiting this land. . Not so long ago, English scientists managed to analyze the blood group of the mummy of the Incan priest, who died in the XVI century. It turned out that the blood belonged to group A, which the Indians of pre-Columbian America could not have ... There is much evidence of encounters with white savages after the colonization of America. In 1721, Father Charlevoix heard stories about bright Indians who lived in the valley of the Missouri River. A few years later, the explorer de la Verandri went in search of a mysterious tribe. In the forest he met a tribe of mandates. Their skin and hair were really quite fair. They told the scientist that their ancestors once lived far in the south, but under the onslaught of their enemies retreated to the north...

In the first half of the twentieth century, an expedition led by the famous explorer Percy Fawcett, who set off in search of a mysterious tribe of white Indians, rumored to live in those parts, disappeared without a trace in the South American jungle. In 1934, the second expedition, organized by the Society for the Study of Atlantis,

disappeared. Its supervisor, the French ethnographer Louis Malepin, was convinced that the white Indians were descendants of the Atlanteans. A few years later, a diary of an expedition member was found in an Indian village, captain Maurice. He described a meeting with white-skinned savages, who, apparently, reacted aggressively to the newcomers and eventually, perhaps, killed them.

Traces of white-skinned gods can be found on islands located far enough from the continent. At the beginning of the XVIII century. Travelers who visited Easter Island were amazed that part of the Aborigines had fair skin and red hair, while most of them were dark-skinned and dark-haired ... In the Polynesia, even now, native people have straight red hair, straight nose and thin lips. They are called Urukeu. The ancestors of Urukeu, according to legends, were gods, who in ancient times inhabited these islands.

In 1621, the first mention of Welsh Indians appeared in John Smith's book "The General History of Virginia's New England and Islands of Eternal Summer". Immigrants from Scotland, Ireland and Wales, who moved to the New World, were genuinely surprised to meet there light-skinned Aborigines, and even spoke an adverb that was very similar to their native language!

Where did the white Indians come from? Allow yourself to put forward several possible versions explaining their origin:

The descendants of the Atlanteans.

This is a fairly common version, repeatedly beaten by researchers. Its indirect confirmation is the information about the cultural achievements that the white gods carried with them;

Aliens.

No evidence that white aliens descended from heaven, yet. And yet, remember how persistently they called themselves gods and instructed humanity. The alien growth can be indicated by the giant growth of Viracocha, which, according to the messages of contactees, is characteristic of many UFOs;

Representatives of one of the unknown or little-known civilizations.

And how much do we know about what other civilizations lived on Earth? Thus, in 1649, British missionary Edward Winslow announced that some Native American tribes belong to the "lost tribe of Israel." This is allegedly testified by their anthropological and cultural characteristics. Winslow even issued a treatise called “Theory of Indian-Jews” ... It is possible that white settlers from another continent settled here in ancient times;

Travelers.

Recently, many doubt that Columbus was the discoverer of America. Perhaps, long before him there was an expedition from one of the “white” continents. What prompted them to do this? Research excitement? Passion for travel? Need to hide from unknown danger? The version does not look so incredible. But how to explain the giant growth of aliens? It is possible that their appearance is somewhat embellished;

Visitors from the future.

So far there is no conclusive evidence of the possibility of time travel, but there are no arguments against it either. So why not assume that the people of the future could travel to pre-Columbian America to “take patronage” of the dense savages?

Of course, all these hypotheses have the right to exist. But can we say for sure that at least one of them is close to the truth, because apart from the legends about white gods and rare finds, of which it is impossible to make a complete picture, there is nothing in the hands of researchers?..

Chichen Itza. Spanish conquest

The originality of its development stems from a whole range of new features in urban planning, architecture, art, Mexican in origin. Some of these innovations have already appeared in the country of Puuk; others seem to come straight from Tula, the capital of Toltec, Mexico. For this reason, the post-classical Chichen Itza period is called a Maya-Toltec city. One of the main mysteries of Mesoamerican archeology is the connections that seem to be completely exclusive between Tula and Chichen Itsey.

Recently, some researchers have suggested that the country's Puchen's Chichen Itza and Chichen Itá's Toltek countries did not replace one another, but were contemporaries, in whole or in part. They differed not chronologically, but functionally. No matter how seductive this hypothesis might look, it raises many objections: if Chichen Itza is the city of the end of the classical period (800-950), which occurred in the ancient postclassical period (950-1250), before in the late postclassical period (1250 —1520) Mayapan became the main city? How to explain the indisputable introduction of Toltek features, clearly dating from the 11th century, to central Mexico. It is impossible to deny the existence of Chichen Itza Puuk with inscriptions in Maya, and Chichen Itza "Maya-Toltek" (for lack of a better term) without inscriptions, but with the production of gold products and the use of turquoise in them. As in the early classical period, the contacts between Teotihuacan and the Mayan country were in both directions, the relations between Central Mexico

and Chichen Itza were mutual; Indeed, if Chichen Itza detects the “Toltec influence”, such centers of the highlands of Mexico as Kakastlla and Scocicalco demonstrate the “influence of the Maya”.

With the exception of Chichen Itza, cities in the inner parts of the Mayan country are rare. In the central zone of the Mayan country in the postclassical period, some settlements of the classical era are sporadically rejected to live by groups of "squatters" who settle on their ruins, practically nothing. In the lowlands, settlements are concentrated around the Cenote well, along the banks of rivers, lagoons, or on the ocean coast, starting from Isla Kerritos in the north of the Yucatan Peninsula to Tipu and Tayasal, including San Hervasio (on Cozumel), Tulum, Santa Rita-Corosal and Lamanai. The abundance and relative wealth of coastal settlements confirm the importance of the sea trade route around the Yucatan Peninsula, which already flourished at the end of the classical period, judging by the Yuctec influences found in Copan.

The upheavals noted in the highlands at the end of the classical era become even more noticeable in the subsequent period. Residents leave settlements on the plains, moving to places where it was easier to defend, for example, on hilltops or mountain plateaus surrounded by ravines. This change in habitat nature is believed to be the result of a new wave of foreign invasions that flowed along the Usumacinta and Mottagua rivers and are directly related to the dominance of Chichen Itza over Yucatan.

With the exception of Chichen Itza, the early postclassical period remains very little studied on the Mayan lands - much remains unclear about them, which does not allow for a sufficient degree of confidence to assess their relationship with Central Mexico. Chichen Itza is a city that has a distinct difference from the Mayan cities of the classical era due to the departure from the traditions that have been in place for many centuries, such as the periodic construction of steles and the creation of

inscriptions, as well as due to the fact that foreign cultural influences are adopted here especially manifested in architectural motifs, in ornaments and in style. But besides these manifestations of a break with the past, there is also a continuation of the classical traditions, especially in cosmology; this leaves no doubt that Chichen Itza is a Mayan city. A completely new political and social organization of society arises on its ruins: there is a weakening of royal power and an increase in the power of a small elite — nobles, priests, and warriors.

In the X century. This is a city with cosmopolitan manners, the development of which was based on the fact that he concentrated in his hands the most important economic wealth of the land of the Maya. He was also the only significant city of Yucatan and remained so for two and a half centuries. This semblance of hegemony, which never existed before, was based much more on its openness and distributional function than on power and strength. Provincial rulers were invited to Chichen Itza for major holidays to participate in the religious activities of the city. It is this participation, this unity through ritual that provides political stability; they do not interfere with the city to have enemies, which, however, are necessary for warriors and for gods, the character of which in this era begins to emerge. The unifying role of Chichen Itza also contributes to the presence of her sacred cenote, which is visited by thousands of pilgrims who throw their offerings into it. This city will remain an important place of pilgrimage until the era of the Spanish conquest.

Spanish conquest

Chichen Itza was defeated in 1221; Mayapan was soon built, becoming the new center of the lowlands. The city was surrounded by a wall, inside of which are now concentrated the ruins of about 3,500 buildings, which corresponds to a population of 10,000–15,000 people. The most important buildings are located in the center of the city, where

you can count a dozen of similar architectural ensembles, each of which, undoubtedly, belonged to the noble "home" of this city; The most impressive of these ensembles is the main pyramid, a copy of Castillo in Chichen Itza. Most likely, it was the pyramid of the Kok kind, which is often mentioned in the chronicles. The gods, of various origins, make up a real pantheon, their images are on numerous lamps, used both in temples and in houses. The cult of gods and ancestors unites and becomes the work of the whole society; in any house, however modest it may be, there is a place dedicated to the gods.

The Shiu clan organizes a revolt against the Kok clan, completely exterminating the latter; Mayapan was plundered and abandoned. Other cities in this region are growing thin and, in turn, are also left. The noble families of Mayapan found new settlements: Chel - in Tekoh, surviving in a mass slaughter from the Kok clan - in Tibolon. Tutul Shiu built in Mani. Other localities on the Eastern Yucatan, such as Tulum and Santa Rita Corozal, flourished until the Spanish conquest. The highlands were also subject to expansion by the Mayan peoples, who were “mexicanized” in the late classical period. Some regions of the Pacific Plain were occupied by groups of people who came from Central Mexico; spoke the language of the Nahua (Pipil). After the thousandth year, new waves of invaders come from the north, and the state of instability leads to a change in habitat: lowland places are left, and people move to places that are easier to protect - for example, to the tops of hills surrounded by ravines. In the thirteenth century there has been a transformation of small centers into powerful rival regional capitals, such as Hilotepek, Sakuleu Ishimche and Kumarkah (Utatlan). The latter city became the capital of the Quiche people, whose history we know from “Pol-Vuh”. He significantly expanded his territory to the detriment of the western and southern neighbors. This continued until the end of the 15th century, when their king was defeated by Kakchikeli.

The Spanish conquest began with the colonization of the islands of

Cuba and Hispaniola (which today is divided between Haiti and the Dominican Republic), after which expeditions of the discoverers of new lands began from these islands. In 1517, Hernandez de Córdoba went in search of slaves, gold and new lands.

He discovered the Island of Women near Cozumel (so named because female figurines were found there), then he proceeded along the Yucatan Peninsula to Champoton, where the Maya caused serious damage to the mariners. Next on the expedition went Juan de Grihalva, who traveled around the peninsula for five months and reached the Panuco River to turn back to Cuba from there. Finally, on February 18, 1519, Hernando Cortes set out on an expedition on 11 ships, with 508 satellites and 16 horses. After arriving in Cozumel, Cortes moved along the peninsula, circled the Gulf of Mexico and landed in Veracruz, where he burned his ships and set off to conquer the Aztec empire, which he brought to his knees in just one year.

Cortes first crossed the south of Yucatan in 1525, heading to Honduras to suppress the attempt to establish independence by one of his assistants. For the first time, the Spaniards attempted to master the Mayan country in 1527–1528, then, without much success, in 1531–1535; the country was finally conquered only at the end of the 16th century, when there were about eighteen independent kingdoms on the peninsula. However, it was not all over.

Those who survived the destruction of Chichen Itza in 1221 founded the city of Taiasal on the islands of Lake Peten; This town successfully resisted several attempts to convert its inhabitants to Christianity, and was finally conquered in 1697 during an attack, which had been carefully planned and prepared for a long time, led by the governor of Yucatan himself. Considerable distances, the political fragmentation of the Mayan country and the small number of conquerors - all this explains why it took the Spaniards twenty years to conquer the

Yucatan.

The first monks, the Franciscans, landed on these shores in 1535. Spiritual conquest, which involves the destruction of previous religions, local festivals, intellectual and artistic activities, in which they saw the devilish instigation, completed and justified the activities of the conquistadors.

Templars, history footnotes

As mentioned above - if something goyysky in general and Aryan in particular fell into the hands of the Levites, then all that was in him of a noble and pure mangled, indulged and turned inside out. But the Aryans also did not remain in debt - to the best of their abilities, they tried to ennoble the reformed Jewish worldview slipped by them, known as Christianity. Seeing this, the Levites were afraid that the genie they had released would go to them, and they split it in two — into Catholicism and Orthodoxy. And when they realized that these “halves” were beginning to behave on their own and turn their swords against the “chosen ones”, heresies were set in motion. The XII-XIV centuries, both for Catholic countries and for Orthodox Russia, were a time when Aryans so saddled and ennobled Christianity that it began to turn from a servant of the Levites into their formidable enemy.

By the same time, having overcome the split caused by the Levites into Sunni and Shi'ism, they no longer particularly favored the worshipers of Zion and the Muslims. Earlier, the Levites had hoped that they, with the help of the Arab Muslims, after throwing the Europeans out of Palestine, would take it for themselves. But not having received it from Muslim Arabs, they decided to incite Christian Europeans against them and, under the pretext of liberating the Holy Sepulcher, to seize the hands of trusting Christians Palestine, mutually weakening Christians

and Muslims, who had to some extent escaped the Jewish pyramid. Breeding Christians with Muslims, led from behind the scenes by Levitic conductors, did not bring them what they wanted - Palestine was ultimately left to the Arabs. An attempt to fulfill Solomon's three thousand years at the bottom of a thousand years failed. But the restless Levites were not appeased. During the time of the Crusaders in Palestine, they created from among them their own advanced Masonic detachment, and it was only due to pure chance that the astounded Western Europe found out in 1307 that it was on the verge of enslaving it with the world of Zion's octopus.

This is how it happened.

In one of the autumn days of 1305, the French king Philip IV, nicknamed Handsome (1268-1314), received a letter from the governor of his castle near Beziers in Languedoc. The letter reported that a certain resident of the city of Skin de Florian, sentenced to death for some ordinary criminal offense, wished to make some important statement to his majesty. Florian argued that the secret he has to inform is that his majesty will not regret giving her the best of his provinces for her, but she can only be told to the king himself [54]. Reporting this, the manager of the royal castle announced that they had suspended the execution of the sentence, and that he was awaiting further orders.

The king ordered to chain this man and deliver him to him for interrogation. Submitted to King Skin de Florian rushed at his feet and begged him to give him life. The king promised except for pardon and reward, if the denunciation really turns out to be so important. Then Florian explained that after being sentenced to death, he was sitting in the same death row with one of the members of the Knights Templar or the Knights of the Temple of Solomon. In those hard times, criminals were often denied confessions before dying. Christianity was the dominant ideology, and whoever the criminal was during his life, before

his death, he was far from indifferent to how he would die. To die without confession meant the death of the soul forever and ever. Therefore, if it was impossible to confess to the priest, it was possible to replace this with confession to each other.

And so, during the confession, the templar revealed to de Florian those terrible in the ideological, and consequently in the political sense, actions that took place in the order. It was not only about Satanism and apostasy from Christ, but also about the Judeo-Masonic conspiracy to become masters in the whole of Europe.

At about the same time, two more templar were arrested for some other crimes: Prior of Montfaucon of the Toulouse region and Florentine Noffe dei (Delphi). Despite similar confessions, both templar were hanged. As for Skin de Florian, he received a huge reward for his denunciation, but later died a violent death, like most of the Templars involved in the disclosure of the conspiracy.

Knowing the strength and deceit of the members of the order, Philip the Beautiful acted very cautiously and instructed at first twelve his spies in different provinces to join the number of members of the order and, obeying the statute, to fulfill everything prescribed from the rites and orders of the order. Moreover, he himself joined the order in order to find out the true state of things. Of course, he learned just as little as later emperors and kings, who entered for a similar purpose in the Masonic orders and always found themselves in the position of being duped. When the Levite agency in 1306 provoked an uprising in Paris, the king even accepted the order offered to him (as it later became known to test his devotion and faith to the order) protection and took refuge in their castle Temple (i.e. the Temple). Moreover, in the spring of the next 1307, when already between him and Pope Clement V everything was secretly stipulated and agreed, as the order was slammed, the king, perfectly wearing the mask of the faithful templar, was present

at the dedication of his brother to the templar, and also invited the famous the masons of the grandmaster of the order of Jacob Berigard de Mole to christen his child! De Molay did not even suspect the death order threatening him and personally supervised on the day of June 24, 1307, the meeting of the Chapter's order in Paris. June 24 to this day is the main order of the holiday of all masons, which was the day of the Templars.

Finally, it's time to act. The decisive king sent out in the summer of 1307 to all his leading provincial officials sealed envelopes with orders to open them only on the night of October 12/13. The king was forced to resort to such precautions because the Pope still hesitated on the issue of the Templars, as is evident from his letters that still remain. And the templars had friends, like-minded people and benefactors everywhere, even to the highest positions in the state. To acquaint with the proscription lists before even our own agents was equivalent to the risk of failing the whole plan. On Friday, October 13, 1307, the royal secret order was executed. In the morning hours of this day, almost all French Templars were seized, with the exception of a few, mainly high-ranking officials of the Order, who were able to travel abroad even earlier. FOR THE FIRST TIME AND, TO THE APPEARANCE, THE ONLY TIME FOR 3000 YEARS, THE ADMINISTRATIVE DEVICE OF GOEYS WAS AT THE HEIGHT and not only in France. On the same day, at the request of the friendly Philip the Beautiful, many of the monarchs of Europe did the same.

The most important preparatory event held by Philip before the arrest of the Templars was the complete removal from France of the entire critical mass of the Jewish pyramid. Without this, his action would be doomed to failure. He conducted this surgery back in 1306. Only after that he took measures against the Templars, in whom he saw the danger already derived from the golden pyramid. This was the result of his greatest state wisdom. The masters of the Judeo-Masonic pyramid took

into account the mistakes of the year 1307: a) the unity of command of the goyish rulers should be limited to a broad council or parliament (that is, by their own people), without which no decision can be taken; b) the spiritual unity of the Pope of Rome must be destroyed by the creation in each country of “national” heretical churches, behind the heads of which the Levites would be hiding; c) no country important from the point of view of the golden pyramid can remain without its critical mass, even if formally disguised as Christians (like maranas in Spain, cleverly hiding under the guise of Christians from 1492 to the present day, when, after the restoration of the monarchy in Spain, the entire economy of this country suddenly found itself in the hands of those who began to visit the synagogues reopened after five centuries).

Under the conditions of our country, Solzhenitsyn’s agents are also trying to create an environment of some nostalgia for the royal monarchy, of course, parliamentary for their designs, while simultaneously warming up interest in Orthodoxy of Solzhenitsyn’s cut. In the “believers” and even in the priestly dignity, the “former” Soviet Jews fall in droves, hoping that during the restoration of the order in our country, they will enter it as the Spanish maranas as full masters of the throne of their protege and in the church whose ideology will, according to their design, have to replace the communist ideology in full compliance with the interests of the golden pyramid.

The creation of “heretical” in Western Europe, that is, European communist tendencies in the communist movement, as well as during the rise of the “heresy” of the Templars, is guided by all of the same golden pyramid using similar clichés.

Therefore, careful consideration of how the Christian Crusaders turned into Satanist servants of the Levites has for us far from a purely historical interest.

The founders of the order were the companions of Gottfried of Bouillon, the French knights Hugh de Payans and Gottfried de Saint-Omer, who in 1118 entered into Palestine in alliance with seven other knights and in the name of the Mother of God made a vow of chastity, obedience and unrequestion, the fourth main vow of these nine. was the protection of pilgrims in St. Land against the Saracens. There is an opinion that already at the very foundation of the order there were Levites. The founding knights were not monks, for the monk does not wear a sword, however they repeated the above-mentioned three monastic vows to the Jerusalem patriarch of Jerusalem, the non-fulfillment of which served as one of the main objects of accusation after the arrest of the templar in 1307. The order was founded in the hospice of Jerusalem. Soon, King Baldwin II of Jerusalem took away precisely that part of his palace, which was built on the place where Solomon’s Temple was located. Many researchers believe that the Jewish knights' mentors became especially interested in them just after that and suggested the choice of the order banner consisting of black and white squares stitched together, marking the main idea of dualism - the equivalence of good and evil, that is, God and Satan.

The author of the book Cosmic Creation is a doctor of medicine and a mason of 32 degrees I. D. Beck and the already mentioned E. P. Blavatskaya, as well as the opponent of Freemasonry, the famous Germanist Gendo von Liszt, all who consider Solomon to be the founder of Freemasonry, see in chess black and the white mosaic of the floor in the masonic lodges remembrance of the black and white banner of the Templars.

Happiness accompanied the order. The position of the order was written by St. Bernard, which Pope Honorius II confirmed at the Council of Troise in 1127. Donations and inheritances flowed into the cashier of the order. Pope Alexander III confirmed and multiplied the privileges of the order in 1172, and Pope Innocent III, the very one who confessed

confession and preexistence to doctrines, freed the clergy from the oath of allegiance and obedience to the bishops, which was especially fraught with consequences for the Templars. Thanks to privileges, the church and the state soon lost all control over the order, its members and its property, and little by little the Templars formed a state in the state, as well as a church in the church.

Created several earlier Templar Order of St. John or Johnites, preserved to this day, did not enjoy such privileges. Most likely, it was saved by the absence of privileges like the Templar, and perhaps the best disguise and conspiracy.

”Order of sv. - John and the templars serve as a true expression of the spirit of the crusades, the spirit of the militant and religious, and they filled the whole Christian world with glory, - the historian G. Michaud, a well-known apologist for Freemasonry, wrote - they were for the Kingdom of Jerusalem as if it were a living fortress, eternally striking and never yielding . What a joy it was for the poor unarmed pilgrims, when somewhere, in the mountains of Judea or the Saronic plains, they noticed in the distance the red attire of the Johannites or the white mantle of the Knights of the Templar!”.

Until the collapse of the state of the Crusaders, temples and Johnites remained in Palestine, and after the destruction of Ptolemais, the Johannites settled on Fr. Rhodes, the templar also - in their vast possessions in Europe. "Here they have overlooked the statutes of St.. Bernard, - testifies, despite all his sympathies towards them, G. Michaud, - and aroused the greedy and envious policies of the monarchs against themselves ”.

The latter point of view, thrown by G. Misho in his book in passing, is only one of the repetitions of the masonic fable learned by historians about the “innocence” of the Templars, who allegedly fell

victim to the greedy monarchs. Therefore, the restoration of the historical truth about the Templars and their forerunners through ideological and political sabotage against the Albigoyans system that existed in Western Europe at that time is a noble task of historians who hold Marxist-Leninist positions. Noble because this dispels the myth of the progressiveness and even the almost revolutionary nature of these servants of the satanic cult. Unfortunately, we still have to meet with the point of view, according to which any struggle against the union of the monarchy and the church or against them separately is considered as a progressive phenomenon. The question then is how to treat such a clearly "monarch-clerical", from a formal point of view, alliance, such as the cooperation of D. Donskoy and Sergius of Radonezh? Indeed, in the twenties there were admirers of Zion, who not only reproached them, but also threw out the remains of the heroes of the Kulikovo battle of Peresvet and Oslyabi from Old Simonov in Moscow! The point of view that the denial of Christ by replacing his cult with the cult of Satan is completely unacceptable is seen as an atheistic phenomenon, so replacing the cult of God with an anti-God cult is not atheism, but rather replacing a lesser evil with more. In the absence of a different ideology in particular historical conditions, with all the flaws of the cult of God, the notion of good was cultivated in people with him, while with the cult of anti-God Satan only evil could be cultivated.

In this regard, unlike the bourgeois historians, both past and present, we hold the view that the actions of Philip the Fair and Pope Clement V were progressive both for his era and far beyond its scope. And all this despite the formal clerical-monarchist alliance between the king and the pope. Of course, even from our present point of view, the protection of a less reactionary ideology of a patriotic nature from the more reactionary ideology of foreign origin and essence was the patriotic duty of every honest citizen of that era - from the king to the simple peasant. Shaking the ideological superstructure of a patriotic nature was for France and the whole of Western Europe tantamount to suicide,

which neither Philip nor the pope could wish for either the feudal lords or the peasants. But after all, apart from ideology, they also talked about the complete economic and political enslavement of Europe.

Therefore Philip the Handsome needed to act and he did it as a true patriot not only of France, but of all of Europe.

From the gloomy castle of Templ, greedy tentacles of the Templars stretched to all the countries of Western Europe and the Mediterranean. The experience of the strictest conspiracy, gained during their stay in Palestine, plus all the gold stolen by the crusaders in the era of the Crusades, seemed to make them completely invulnerable. Those who remember Walterscot's "Ivanhoe" know that these rude and arrogant templar did not know either pity or conscience. Pretending to be "defenders of the Christian faith", the Order was in fact a secret corporation to overthrow the Christian monarchies that became undesirable to the world Zion. Walter Scott is quite faithful to the historical truth, when the templar in his novel says to “beautiful Jewess” Rebekah: “Do not refer to the difference of our beliefs. At the secret meetings of our order, we laugh at these children's fairy tales. Our order has assimilated itself bold and broad views. Our vast estates in all the kingdoms of Europe, our military glory, thundering in all countries and attracting to our midst the color of the knighthood of the entire Christian world — all serve purposes that our pious founder did not dream of, but we keep it secret from those weak minds. that enter into our order on the basis of an old charter and abide in old prejudices, and we use them as a blind tool of our will. ”That the order really did not know the prejudices of the Christian church of that time is attested by even that ct that in the possession of the Templars' noble Catholic knights "were allowed to freely marry daughters" crucifiers Christ "that would have been unthinkable for any other Catholic," - says scientist N. Lisovoy.

World domination began to be drawn to the inflamed imagination

of the knights as early as during their stay in the ruins of the Solomon temple in Jerusalem. It was then that the wise men showed up there, and according to the local - hahamas, which gradually, step by step, began to reprogram their psyche by the “magic” methods known to them. It was these wise men who instilled in them the idea of the need to restore the temple of Solomon in all the splendor of his cult with bloody burnt offerings and, legalizing it as the only religious (i.e. ideological) center of the whole earth, to establish its “thousand-year kingdom” on the bones of the defeated and oppressed peoples ". How and for what purpose the order of protection of Christian pilgrims, who by his very idea should have been an implacable enemy of the crucifiers of Christ, suddenly dreams of restoring the temple of Solomon with Jewish rituals? Who are the Zionist hahamas who almost from the first day of the creation of the order begin to reprogram the moral of its members? And finally, why did the Templar Crusaders themselves need it?

And also: does not any of what we have already firmly managed to forget now or have not been taught at all in history lessons now?

In order to understand the issues, we need to get acquainted with the intermediate link that connected the templar with the golden pyramid. The role of this link was played by the assassins. They are descended from the Ismaili sect, which is considered to be a formally Muslim sect, which in turn came out of the depths of the Shiite trend in Islam, that is, just that “half” of it, which is so similar to the Catholic half of Christianity. The Ismaili sect was formed in 760, originally in the Iranian province of the Caliphate.

If we take into account that the “color of the Jewish elite” after the destruction of its wasp nest by Jerusalem, Jerusalem moved towards Dvorichya, Iran and Transcaucasia, and to Europe - the plebeian lower classes of Jewry, then after a few centuries, this elite of the Jews tried to saddle representatives the Muslim world, because this Jewish elite was in

its very center. At the same time, European Christians by this time did not fully justify the hopes that the Levites and masons who had established Christianity had placed on them. Muslims were close at hand to the most experienced Talmudists Babylon and Jerusalem. In the 9th century, Kabbalists created a new sect - the new Ismailis. Its creator was the Jewish philosopher Abdullah bin Maymun. He found a supporter in the Persian richer Zeidane, who gave him 3 million gold coins for propaganda. To this day, masons honor Abdullah Bin Maymun as a magnificent organizer who has already expanded the already “bold and broad” views of Islam for Islam. They did not observe prayers and fasting, and some of them did not even attend mosques. And now every mason of high initiations remembers by heart the covenant of Master Bin Maimun: he allowed them to kill, burn and rob, saying that there is no sin and that we should not be afraid of crimes, no matter how terrible they are; he taught them that there is no sin and there will be no punishment (in the next world). He supplied them with a complex organization with strict rules of dedication. Very few reached the highest levels in this order, which ordinary Ismailis blindly obeyed [57]. However, this was not enough for the Levites. It took the militants and in 1081 they separated from the Ismailis a special sect of Hashshashins (in the European way - assassins). The name comes from the Arab. the words “Hashin” are grass, due to the fact that members of this sect used a narcotic herbal mixture, which included, for example, Indian hemp. The sect was founded by a certain “Maran” in Islam, the preacher of the Ismailis, Hasan ibn Sabbah. First, he led the propaganda in Syria in the Aleppo area. Then his activity spread to Iran. Soon, the members of the sect-order of Hassan ibn Sabbah seized the impregnable fortress Alamut (Eagle's Nest) in the mountains of Elbrus in Iran with cunning, and then the order became the owner of many of the fortresses captured by them and the newly built castles. These Khashshashin strongholds were, as a rule, in the hard-to-reach mountainous regions of Syria, Lebanon and Iran [58], an extraordinary multi-head (“polka-dot” on the map) state of the hashshashin (1090-1256) was formed, the head of which was “the

elder of the mountain” (Master Order Hashshashinov). “From the height of his Mosand fortification, the“ elder of the mountain ”reigned by the force of horror that he inspired in all the princes,” testifies G. Michaud [59]. Khashshashin practiced methods of individual terror against noble persons and sovereigns. Practically it was a specialized department of the same mafia, but in a special ideological shell. The invisible Levites directed all the actions of the “elder of the mountain.” The executors of political assassinations were f and d a and (in many respects - fidain): in Arabic - “sacrificing themselves for the sake of achieving a lofty goal”. The Order recruited its members, of course, from the goyim, mainly from the Arabs. The Fidai were specially brought up from an early youth in the mountain strongholds of young people who went to certain death, as a feat [60]. The “Fidai,” blindly subordinate to the will of the chief, were armed with daggers in order to kill those whom they indicated; for them there was neither fear nor obstacles; they were to find the intended sacrifice among the crowd, in the palaces and on the battlefield; they were not afraid of their own death, convinced that through death they would take possession of all the joys of paradise. These joys of the future life, these blisss were presented to them in the dreams and dreams excited by the use of Hoshish ”[61]. You could go to heaven only by sacrificing your life on the instructions of the “elder of the mountain.” “And Fidai, being a member of one of the lower ranks of the assassins' hierarchy, paradise understood as purely sensual bliss. He did not know that according to the “inner” doctrine of the Ismailis, to which only members of higher degrees were devoted, paradise is an allegory of perfect knowledge and only spiritual delights are possible in paradise [62]. The fanatical belief of the fdayev in the “elder of the mountain” was absolutely phenomenal. There is a case when one of the rulers of the Crusader state was invited to the “elder of the mountain”. Wanting to make the greatest impression on the guest, "the elder of the mountain", passing under the high walls of his fortress, on which stood several young men-fidaev, said: "It is enough for me to make a barely noticeable gesture, and they will rush to our feet." After that, he made a gesture, and

the young men broke to death at their feet.

The ideology of the Ismaili assassins had nothing to do with Islam. It would be correct to call it anti-Islam, expressed under one of the Muslim sects. The teaching of the assassins was an eclectic mixture of the teachings of the same Jewish Alexandrian Gnostics, Zoroastians, Manichaeans, bardesanites, and the primitive version of yoga, but in addition - the ominous shadow of Kabbalah hung over all of this with its complex system of psychological processing, which is now called “modification of behavior” "[63]. In short, it was the first mafia Masonic lodge, recorded in the annals of history within Islam. It is possible that there were facts and earlier Masonic orders inside Islam, which are still unknown to us.

Already in 1138, the assassins officially abolished the laws of Islam in the enclave possessions of their order, proclaiming the slogan “everything is permitted”, which made a compelling impression on the Jerusalem knights of the Solomon's temple. It is from this time that the essential heretical deviation is planned in the order of the Templars, which led them gradually to a complete rejection of Christian morality, already ennobled in Europe, and the transition to Satanism (Luciferianism). Be that as it may, the templar has returned back to Europe as the bearers of the ideology of the Zionian hahams (ration hahams).

While still in Palestine, the Knights of the Solomon Order became so zealous students of the ideology and practice of the Knights of the “Elder of Mount Lebanon”, that the structure of the former became extremely close to the structure of the latter. The Templars copied the multi-slavic system of the Assassin state "in polka-dots", which does not recognize the state borders of others, but sacredly protect their own, unobtrusive for others, borders. The identity of the main attributes of these orders, such as the multiplicity of degrees of initiation, testifies to

the identity of the structure, ideology and practice of Masonic lodges, assassins and Templars; that the same vow of silence about everything that happens in the order; the same inevitability of punishment, up to the death penalty through death under mysterious circumstances; the same practice of undermining from within all institutions hostile to the world Zion; the same irrepressible pursuit of peace-keeping by means of “peaceful” destruction from within everything that stands in the way.

Soon European students (the Templars) surpassed the Arab teachers (assassins). The latter have already begun to pay them tribute; The Levitical masters transferred their trust to them. This is understandable: after all, it was the templars, not the assassins, who were still on the ruins, but still the temple of Solomon, so dear to the Levites, that temple, which, after this restoration, should turn the whole world into its foot. The alumni of the Templars - the assassins (although their Zion-Hahamas had previously launched into their order's orbit) were sitting on the Mount of Lebanon, albeit more difficult to reach, but still relatively distant from Zion Hill. The top of the pyramid dedicated to the order of the “elder of the mountain of Lebanon”, feeling that the soil of the world power for them hesitated, sent ambassadors to the order of the mountain of the temple of Solomon in 1172 with the proposal to convert the entire Assassins to Christianity. It would seem that the pious crusaders, in order to spread the Christian faith among the "pagans of the East," should have accepted them with open arms. Instead, the Templars cut the ambassadors of the “elder of the mountain”: they were already servants of the temple and did not need competitors, much less ideological like-minded people. After all, “everything is permitted”, and the knights of the temple, dressed in white robes with red headdresses (the color of innocence and blood), coolly released blood from the knights-fidaev from the mountains of Lebanon, dressed in the robes of the same colors [64].

Such perfidy of the templars brought them thin glory. Therefore,

even long before Skene de Florian’s historical recognition of France and other Western European countries, rumors of clandestine conspiracies often spread by the Templars themselves in accordance with the old and proven tactics they had taken out of Palestine, crawled around. This tactic of behavior modeling produced the rank and file, and even more so on the crowned Europeans, the same terrible paralyzing effect as the Crusaders' fortresses thrown from the wall of the fortress. For many generations, those who returned from the crusades talked about the terrible practice of the Knights Templar on “holy land”. The Europeans knew about their ideological proximity with the assassins. They guessed that the Assassin Order is not so much a special creed, as a secret political organization, which left memory in many European languages. Suffice it to recall that the word ”assassin (o)” was included in English, French, Italian, and other languages in the sense of “murderer” [65]. On the other hand, the unbridled behavior of the Templars, their rudeness, also remained in the memory of the French people, who still retain the adage: “scolding like a templar”.

The legends of the Masonic historians of the type of G. Misho that the templar supposedly fought for the Christian Palestine to the last, also are not confirmed by historical facts. So, in 1148, Conrad III lost Damascus only because of the betrayal of the Templars. One Egyptian Christian emir, sheltered under the protection of the Templars, they gave the enemy for 60,000 gold. In 1165, the king of Jerusalem, Amarlik, ordered twelve Templars to be hanged for betraying the Saracens in a traitorous manner, without a fight of an important fortress in the Jordan. And when in 1187 the Arabs, under the leadership of the Egyptian Sultan Salah ed-Din (Saladin), took away Jerusalem from the usurper Ganda de Lusignan, Amarlik's son-in-law, a significant part of the blame for this defeat was on the Templars.

As a result, ownership of the sacred ruins of the temple of Solomon and their surroundings was lost to both the assassins and the Templars.

Mount Zion remained behind the third force, the force that entered the arena of history from the banks of the Volga and the Nile.

In the fifties of the twentieth century, this question, previously ignored by masonic historians, attracted the attention of the Egyptian Amin al-Kheli. In 1960, he published a book in Cairo, “Connections between the Nile and the Volga in the XIII-XIV centuries.” In it, the author uses a kind of terminology, calling the Middle East "center", and Palestine - the "crest" of the Old World, setting out the events of that period as follows:

"The combined forces of the West moved to the Center under the banner of the religion of Christ. Egypt and Syria took the brunt. At the same time, she was moving from the East, sweeping away everything in her path, a formidable force: she destroyed Baghdad, devastated the land of Syria and reached the borders of Egypt. In relation to the Center, West and East essentially pursued a common policy. The West used religion as a means to attract the East to its side. And at one time it seemed that the Tatars could help the Crusaders to return the Holy Sepulcher.

Egypt reflected the onslaught of two oncoming flows. He fought. The reins of government in the country were taken into the hands of the Mamluk warriors. They did away with the Crusaders and repelled the invasion of the Tatars ”[66].

And a little further, Al-Kholi talks about the world-historic significance of the establishment of the power of the Mamluks over the center of the most ancient civilizations.

"The center was the only force that saved civilization after the attempts of many peoples of the Far East and the West to protect it failed. He established connections with other nations, which had a definite influence on the fact that the Tatar tornado was stopped and

saved world civilization from destruction ”[67].

Who are the Mamluks? Many had the impression, reinforced by the appearance on the screens of the Georgian film “Mamluk”, that these were mostly boys of Caucasian origin (Circassians, Georgians, etc.). There was also this. Flashed, however, in the ancient Egyptian annals strange names for the Arabs - "Ivan Bey", "Ibn Vasili". And the Russian name always appeared in such a situation as accidental. It was presented ... But the Arab historian, having revised the documents of the chronicles anew, draws the opposite conclusion, abolishing the monopoly of the “Caucasian boys,” the historian N. Lisovoi points out.

“Mamluks” almost all, or for the most part, were Kipchaks — the Volga people, completely assimilated by the Russians, spoke Russian and baptized into Orthodoxy. They maintained close "ties with Russia, entered into marriages with Russians and, more than other nations, mixed with them" [68]. The export of Kipchak and Russian slaves was carried out through the Golden Horde along the Volga and its tributaries, slave traders, mainly of Jewish origin, who took tribute in the Horde to this profitable commercial enterprise and almost completely monopolized it. As commercial needs and orders from the Azov, Crimean, Genoese and Venetian bases arrived, the Judas slave traders, who came from the Kaganates of Central Asia, hired entire Tatar cavalry units, and those performing subcontracting attacked the defenseless Russian villages and took the needed ones for their owners live goods. Here is what the famous German orientalist Christian Adam May (1869-1917) writes in his famous book “The Muslim Renaissance”:

“In Europe, the slave traders were almost exclusively Jews. The goods came mainly from the East ... A stratification of Jews in the East Saxon cities of Magdeburg and Merzenburg seems to be connected with the slave trade ”[69].

Metz testifies that in the Middle Eastern region of the Caliphate that interests us, the category of white slaves was limited to the Turks and representatives of that inexhaustible tribe that gave its name in Europe to its own estate, that is, the Slavs. They were valued higher than the Türks ”[70]. “If there is no Slav, then they take the Turk into service,” said Al-Khvarizmi (Khatima, IV, p. 116). A much larger article of removal from the main city of the Volga Bulgars, Bulgar, were slaves who were brought from there to the Amu Darya (Mukaddasi, p. 325).

From the west, Russia was tormented by raids of Teutonic knights-dogs, followed by slave traders from Zion, like a black crow, who lowered orders for live goods from Russia to the order. "The second way of exporting slave-Slavs went through Germany to Spain, as well as to Provencal cities and Italian port cities of the Mediterranean Sea" [71] ... "During the transportation of the slaves of these Jewish slave traders, they were conscientiously selected, at least by the Germans" [72]. The Jewish slave trade walked freely through all the bans of the Christian church to sell Christians into slavery. And the church often could not redeem all Christian slaves from the Jews simply because of the lack of the necessary funds. So, in 989 of sv. Adalbert resigned from the rank of bishop of Prague because he was not able to redeem all Christians procured by a Jewish merchant [73]. This indication is very valuable, since it indicates that the Jewish slave traders, long before they had established the Teutonic Order on the ruins of the Solomon's temple, had already trodden the path to Western Russia from Prague - this ancient slave trade terminal in Central Europe. The active participation of Zionism in the events of 1968 in Czechoslovakia shows how deeply the Zion beast has dug in this Slavic country - the country of the descendants of Cheeks.

But every cloud has a silver lining: Yesterday's slave boys, sold by Jewish merchants to the Middle East, became the Mamluk ruling class there. They achieved a dominant position in both Egypt and Palestine.

Legends were preserved, - N. Lisova writes, - as royal ivan bei went afterwards with magnificent retinues to their native places, to Ryazan and Tambov regions, and invited not only relatives, but also countrymen and whole villages, who then we drove down the Volga and the Don through the Crimea to Palestine, where we received the best land, honor and respect of the local Arab population.

Thus, as part of the Mamluks, who knocked the Templars and other Crusaders from Mount Zion and its environs, there was a very significant Russian element of origin, which made a significant contribution to the salvation of world civilization from the oncoming Jewish slavery. The slave trade of Slavic slaves turned against the plans of the owners of the golden pyramid.

It is quite symbolic that it is the descendants of those whom the hordes of Joshua brought up in Sinai in 1250 BC. e. displaced from the Scorched Stan to the north to the region of the Venetian ridge, in 1250 - exactly 2500 years later, after returning to the Palestinians by the Mamluks, they utterly defeated the army of Louis I the Saint, capturing the owners of the golden pyramid as captive. The last remnants of the Crusaders were knocked out by the Mamluks from Akkon in 1291, 16 years before the arrest of the Templars.

And who knows if only a chance coincidence or some still unexplored historians of close ties between Russia and Palestine are hiding behind the defeat of the knights on the ice of Lake Peipsi in 1242 (8 years before the defeat of St. Louis), and with Alexander’s clear benevolent neutrality Nevsky to the Horde - the supplier of Russian boys in the ranks of the Mamluks?

The greatest state wisdom of Alexander Nevsky prompted him that the whole force of the crushing blow of Russia first of all should be directed to the Teutonic Order. It originated in the same host of the house

in Jerusalem as the Order of the Templars and almost at the same time with it. The tactics and actions of the Teutonic knights, so similar to the acts of the Assassins and Templars, were aimed mainly against Eastern Europe and especially against Russia. And Russia was the first to strike the Levite offspring produced on the ruins of the temple of Solomon. The backbone of the Teutonic Order was crushed first on Lake Peipsi and finally broken by the combined forces of the Slavs and Lithuanians in the Battle of Grunwald on July 15, 1410.

The time will come and the grateful Europe will erect, somewhere in its center, a majestic monument to the comrades standing hand in hand to eliminate the world Judeo-Masonic threat - Alexander Nevsky and Philip the Fair, despite the fact that their battles with the Masonic orders of Zion were 70 years apart.

Starting the action against the Templars, Philip the Beautiful understood that the question was whether to be free or to enslave in Europe. He knew that it was not only the overthrow of the ruling elite of European states, but also a radical ideological breakdown, deep moral corruption, which would inevitably lead to a complete degradation of the contemporary civilized world, degradation, the consequences of which could not even be imagined. On the other hand, Philip could not help but guess what he personally faces is a decisive step regarding the Solomon knights: the inevitability of death under mysterious circumstances and posthumous discredit for many years, and maybe centuries. It was necessary to have enormous civil courage to take this step. And yet Philip made it. After all, it was not without reason that the people called him with respect the Iron King. This step was truly historic. The spiritual heirs of the Templars cannot forgive him to Philip even today, continuing to pour mud on him in their pseudo-historical studies about the Templars. For more than six and a half centuries this discredit continues. Zero educational qualification in relation to the knowledge of the essence of Judeo-Freemasonry affects us. Back in 1957, the Foreign Literature

Publishing House, in translation from French, released the dirty Masonic-Kabbalistic little book by Maurice Druon “The Iron King”, in which all the smelly streams of dirt and slander flow onto Philip. However, it is difficult to understand whether, as a result of zero educational qualifications, the publishing preface to the book only praises the author as a fighter for peace and a participant in the resistance - don’t touch him - his own. “Now, in the years when the reactionary circles of the French bourgeoisie preach cosmopolitanism, they call for renunciation of national sovereignty, the writer's appeal is quite significant to the era of French history when the formation of the French nation and statehood took place” (p. 5). And this is at a time when the entire book of Druon is aimed precisely at protecting the rootless cosmopolitanism of the Templars and against the fighter for the formation of the French nation and statehood - Philip the Fair. Jesuit publishing preface is truly amazing!

Meanwhile, the Europeans of the 20th century needed to survive two world wars, to lose tens of millions of lives in them, to think of the Nuremberg process at the end of the Second World War. Philip first conducted a trial on the future (but not so-called) main war criminals of the First World War, which did not take place in the 14th century, the planned golden pyramid. Philip moved the First World War exactly six centuries. And only in the XX century, the newly strengthened Masonic pyramid and its owners from the golden pyramid managed to unleash two whole world wars.

Of course, prevention, with the right timely diagnosis, is the best way to heal ailments, including social ones. Figuratively speaking, Philip took medieval ticks into his own hands (he could not have had any others at that time) and with a sharp jerk, of course, without anesthesia, he pulled out a rotten nail with meat that threatened gangrene to the whole European organism; the organism was saved, although it may be that he himself didn’t really like the savior’s rude tug.

Before the arrest of the Templars, Philip sent letters asking for similar arrests to the King of Rome, the King of Neapolitan, the King of England, the King of Castile, the King of Aragon, the King of Navarre, the King of Portugal, all the Electors, all the Italian princes and the Count of Flandres.

In total, 140 people were arrested, headed by the Grand Master of the Order Jacob de Molay. Began, as it were now called, the process of the century.

Those who swore an oath to powerlessness ended up in a huge banking house that brokered foreign exchange transactions between the East and the West.

The warriors of Christ, who drove the merchants from the temple of Solomon, became the Rothschilds of their time. According to a contemporary of Matthew the Parisian, the Templars owned 9,000 fortified castles in the early 14th century. In their hands focused all the circulation of bills of the Catholic world. The popes and kings became financially dependent on them just as today the international Zionist concern controls 80% of the capital of the entire non-socialist world. The Templars knew how to get a good percentage. When Louis XX the Saint was captured by the Arabs, he had to borrow from the Templars most of the ransom of 26,000 gold livres. Nevertheless, not only the economic bondage that swept over Western Europe bothered the wise Philip. A wealthy secret organization with a less secret multistage ideology, which undermined the dominant Christian ideology from the inside, was built on the richest economic base.

The Order had three degrees: the first was a bollard (groom, workshop); the second is a kaplan (servant, squire) and the third is a knight. Then came the invisible degree. In addition to the initiates, there

were also the so-called "affiliated", translated as "adopted", but this expresses only approximately the meaning of this category, which could include both noblemen and raznochintsy, men and women, partly or fully brought monastic vows. We find something appropriate at the present time in Freemasonry among the so-called “masons without an apron”, to which most of our dissidents belong, and among the Jesuits in the person of the so-called “Jesuits of the short cassock”. Then there were “donates” (contributors) who, without taking a special vow, provided their status or themselves for secular services (or both) to the order. A variety of “donates” were “oblate” - persons who from childhood were intended by parents to serve the order. At the same time, the rules for choosing the grandmaster of the order were drafted in such a way that all the guarantees for the preservation of the traditions of the order and once-for-all of the intended course of conduct were evident - any deviations were impossible. The elected chapter, the head of which was always appointed during the grandmaster’s lifetime, was composed after his death according to the rules of self-optation, so that only his people were held, who could be relied on, and all the choices were limited only to fixing a predetermined candidate. But who chose and dedicated the first grandmaster of the order? Indeed, as we already know, a new Masonic order cannot be organized without a patent from above. E. Blavatsky authoritatively asserts that the founder of the order, Hugh de Payans, received the dedication from the very “elder of the mountain”. From him, according to Count Kutela, after making peace with the assassins, before the fall of Jerusalem, he was initiated by the “elder of the mountain” and the knight Guillaume de Montbar, which gave the Templars the opportunity to retreat unhindered to the sea.

The fact that all the Templars were Satanists cannot be seriously argued. As in Freemasonry in general, Satanism is gradually being brought down. But that the tops of the order were infected with Satanism, at the present time for us is absolutely certain. In 1877 secret statutes of the order were published with parallel Latin and German texts

(publisher Dr. Mertsdorf with a preface to Švečka) based on the Vatican manuscript, the question of the authenticity of which the masons still try in vain to challenge with foaming at the mouth. “This secret charter that arose between 1220 and 1290 was an inviolable secret,” writes G. Schuster, “under threat of the strictest punishment, the brothers were forbidden to have copies of it or even carry them with them” [74]. This mystery was due to the dualism of the Templars. The secret statutes clearly show that the case began with a sectarian statement of the mysteries of Christianity and, as it rose up the Masonic steps, it ended in the denial of Christ. Currently, a member of the Masonic Order in the socialist countries begins with small dissident liberties in ideological and practical terms and ends after two or three degrees of dedication from communism renunciation in general, while nevertheless keeping the party ticket in your pocket.

The Templars, when they were sworn in, by which, incidentally, Rome was recognized as the synagogue of the antichrist, were instructed to present the brothers to throw their crosses on the ground, to trample them and spit. Then a wooden cross was filed to the neophyte and was asked to confirm the example of their oath to follow the example of those present. In addition to desecrating the cross, he was charged with the presence of black masses on Saturdays and the worship of the idol of Baphomet. Even the advocates of the Templars P. Marten and Carl Geise, who jointly wrote the book Secret Societies, do not deny the Satanism of the Templars. Schreymark, a well-known scholar of Freemasonry, aptly calls the black mass the product of the spirit of denial and cultural fake under the coven of witches. Its main points are the desecration of St. communion (in Catholics - wafer) and the slaughter of a newborn or an innocent girl; and the altar for a black mass should be the naked body of a public girl. The mass usually ended in a swagger orgy. A fitting element is the kissing under the tail of a live goat, depicting Satan himself in the image of Baphomet. Later, the scandalous acts of the French court also surfaced facts showing that the famous favorite of the

Marquis de Montespán (by the way, a typical Marani surname), sacrificed abbot Günbur, sacrificed young children, thinking how she was then dodged, to regain the position of King Louis XIV . The Templars also dodged in court, explaining that spitting the cross meant only the initial stage of the “Christian” dedication, which symbolizes the apostle Peter’s abdication of Christ. They explained the worship of the idol of Baphomet as purely Christian symbolism, supposedly glorifying the “Son of Man”. The Viennese Orientalist I. H. Purgstall, who studied temples and chapels of the Templars with many different images of Baphomet in various countries, came to the conclusion that they were identical with the idol that the followers of the Gnostic-Ophite teachings worshiped along with the Templars.

In the third section of the mentioned secret statutes of the order, we also meet Baphomet, whom the third prayer addresses when performing the sacrament of “baptism”. The famous American freemason Albert Pike, whom opponents of Freemasonry called “Masonic Pope” or “Anti-Dad”, calls Baphomet the primary matter of great creation, gnosticly interpreted by the “fiery body of the holy spirit” symbolized by the hermaphrodite goat Mende.

The famous French occultist Eliphas Levy in the book “The Doctrine and Ritual of Higher Magic”, St. Petersburg, 1910, gave a stylized image of Baphomet [75]. The picture shows us a monster with the head of a goat (or goat) Mende. The skull between the strongly spread horns is smoked with sulfur. On the forehead a pentagram is burning - Magen-Shlomo. The monster has a female torso and wings, goat legs trample the globe. The belly is covered with mermaid scales. Between the legs, an object with a head protrudes, resembling the staff of Esculapus entwined with two serpents, otherwise Hermes's caduce, symbolizing the power of knowledge, which, without the culture of the heart, according to Catherine II, is the path to death. Two snakes symbolize the polar equivalence of good and evil, that is, the same idea

of dualism. The inscriptions on the hands of Coagula and Solve. The left one is directed towards the moon at the increment, and the right one is towards the month at a loss and constitute one of the pantacles (talismans) of the mystical Kabbalah and relate to the laws governing the so-called astral and spiritual strength (concepts from Zionized yoga) and mean: ”First gather (Coagula), and then spread it! ”(See Vladimir Shmakov,“ The Holy Book of Thoth. The Great Arcana of the Tarot. Abstract Principles of the Synthetic Philosophy of Esotericism. The Commentary Experience. ”M., 1916).

Baphomet is also called Behemoth. According to the aesthetic views of the masons and their masters of rabbis, this, ugly in our opinion, the monster is the height of perfection. Jewish girls dream before marriage to be known in a dream by the knob of the “divine Hermaphrodite” - this is how they are brought up in families. And although this is one of the great mysteries of the rabbis, nevertheless in the Jewish fiction we no no no and we find eloquent confessions about it. So, in 1915, the Jewish Kabbalist writer Gustav Meyrink published a novel published in the Russian translation in Petrograd in 1928. Golem - the rabbis' everlasting dream of creating a man of service - was allegedly created in Prague in the old Jewish quarter by one experienced rabbi in Kabbalah. To launch this bioautomatic device, a rabbi needed to stick a magical tetragram into his mouth. Somehow, due to an oversight by Rabbi Golem, crumbled into dust in the Old Prague synagogue - now the supposedly oldest of all existing in Europe. The heap of land in the middle of this synagogue is still issued by numerous pilgrims and tourists for the ashes of Golem, created with the assistance of Baphomet-Hermaphrodite. Mason lodge Fula Adolf Hitler to touch this synagogue was strictly forbidden.

In exchange, on both sides of the front line, the children of the leader remained. "Children of Hitler live and live," - says 70-year-old German Eli Washbach. He is perhaps the only surviving participant in

the experiment that lasted 6 years, when Hitler’s sperm were fertilized with thousands of purebred ariek in different countries of the world. As a result, the Fuhrer was born about 200 children who were financially secure and brought up in Nazi traditions. It was assumed that they will rule the world after the death of the Fuhrer. But although the idea of a thousand-year Reich failed, the children of the Fuhrer, according to Washbach, are included in governments of at least 15 European countries, including in Moscow. Like a tetragram inserted into the Golem, Hitler-Schickelgruber's Jewish and Masonic blood provides a Jewish presence in power to the first secretaries of the regional committees, then to the secretaries of the Central Committee of the CPSU, then to ...

And during the events of 1968, the Zionists from the government guarded this synagogue very carefully. Gustav Meyrink transparently makes it clear in his novel that it contains one of the most hermetic (that is, secret Kabbalistic) books - the book “Ibbur” [76], containing the secrets of the great knowledge of Satan-Baphomet. Meyrink speaks of a secret passage connecting the synagogue with the underground vault on Alchemists Street, where the tip of the golden pyramid, previously hiding under the sign of the Order of the Asian Brothers (now Bnai-Brit), had its own image of Baphomet-Hermaphrodite:

“As the ultimate goal,” says the daughter of the Prague Rabbi, “I imagine the merging of two creatures into one — into what you have heard about the Egyptian cult of Osiris, the meaning of which is Hermaphrodite. That is, the mystical combination of feminine and masculine beginnings ”(p. 176).

”On the Alchemists Street there is a house, visible only in the fog and then the lucky ones. It is called “the house of the last lantern”. During the day it is a big gray stone, followed by a cliff and a deep reindeer ditch. Under the stone is a huge treasure. This stone was laid by

the Order of the "Asian Brothers" as a foundation for the house. In this house, at the end of time, a person must live, or rather Hermaphrodite. The creation of a man and a woman. He will have an image of a hare in his coat of arms - the symbol of Osiris, and from here comes our usual Easter bunny [77]. This place is guarded by Mufusil so that Satan does not copulate with the stone and does not give birth to a son from him: the so-called Armilos. He (as the rabbis know) will have golden hair, gathered back in a pigtail, two nape, sickle heads and arms long to the feet ”(p. 188).

The following is a description of Baphomet:

”The garden wall is covered with mosaics. The strangely intertwined turquoise murals with gold depict the cult of the Egyptian god Osiris. The gate represents the god himself: the hermaphrodite of the two halves formed by the leaves of the gate is the right female, the left male. He sits on a precious flat nacre throne. His golden head has the shape of a hare. His ears are raised up and closely pressed to each other, so that they resemble the pages of a half-opened book ”[78] (p. 276).

Here we are dealing with a disguised Baphomet. The fact is that the goat-goat Mende is too much like Satan in the Christian view. Nevertheless, the aesthetics of Judeo-masonry in this image is utterly disgusting for normal people.

After these aesthetic excursions into the symbolism of Baphomet, is it any wonder that the prosecution imputed to the Templars the failure to observe the vow of chastity? At the trial it was proved that the new initiate had to mutually with the receptor (receiver) to kiss the uncomfortable parts of the body, which the vast majority of the members of the order confessed to. It was convincingly proved that although relations with women were forbidden, those with the brothers were allowed.

Therefore, Archbishop Narbonski, trusted by Philip the Handsome, compared the Templars with the Old Testament depraved Madzhaistami. In a letter dated October 25, 1307, the Grand Master of the Order of the Templars, Jacob de Molay, confessed to these and similar infamy and gave his brothers in the order, by virtue of his dignity, to obey all the investigative bodies, which were headed by King Guillaume de Nogare. To this day, the entire pack of Masonic historians of the world is slinging mud and slander on it. The letter is still to this day stored in Hartularium (manuscript collection) of the University of Paris and was published by prof. Finke in the second volume of his research. If at the same time to take into account that it was the Grandmaster of the Order who was never subjected to torture and that, consequently, this most important witness is out of the question of physical coercion, then the picture is complete and incontestable.

During the process, which lasted 7 years, on orders from the will of the golden pyramid, some of the Templars took their confessions back and condemned themselves to the stake. How many have been burned, how many have died from the effects of torture — now it is no longer possible to recover the documents. It is only known that on May 12, 1310, 54 templar were burned in Paris, a few days later - another 4. On May 9 of the same year, 9 more Templar were burned in Senlis. Soon after, a few more. Grandmaster Jacob Bernhard de Molay himself was burned on March 18, 1314, along with Coffroy de Charnay in Paris on the Jewish island on the Seine, where Pano Dauphine is now located. According to eyewitnesses, enveloped in flames de Molay exclaimed:

- Pope Clement, Chevalier Guillaume de Nogare, King Philip! It will not even take a year, as I will call you to the judgment of God, and a fair punishment will be given to you! A curse! Curse on your race to the thirteenth knee!

The Golden Pyramid took care of the strict execution of the “prophecy” - an order placed by her into the mouth of her faithful Masonic lackey. There is a version according to which de Molay received a note from the owners of the golden pyramid before execution, in which he had to call for a report before the throne of God - the pope for 40 days, and the king for 40 weeks. Schottmüller considers this unproven. But two facts seem to say otherwise: Pope Clement died on the night of April 20, 1314 in terrible agony from an unknown ailment. The fire destroyed the church in which the body of the unfortunate pope was placed. The dead body of the deceased was also burned.

His remains were then transferred to the mausoleum. In 1577, a pluralistic Masonic werewolf, this time in the face of Calvinist crowds, whose fury was led by some unknown force that inspired them to bestial hatred of a man who died 263 years before, destroyed the mausoleum, threw the remains of the body into the fire and dispelled the ashes the wind. Philip the Handsome soon after his execution fell ill with a strange disease that no doctor could recognize and which took him to his grave on November 29 of that year. Most of the clergy, secretly in Freemasonry or terrorized by them, refused to serve the funeral services for him, and the successors to his power were forced to resort to coercion. Be that as it may, if the Mole's death spell was made up later, then surely those who poisoned the pope and the king invented it. For both Chancellor Guillaume de Nogare and informer Skin de Florian followed the king in a very short amount of time. In any case, we have before us the indisputable fact that the chief financial officer of King Angeran de Marigny, who enjoyed the unrestricted confidence of King Philip the Fair and was his actual co-ruler, was hanged in 1315 in Montfonte for treason.

Albert Pike, in his already quoted work "The Teaching and Dogma of Freemasonry," very frankly says: "Having broken the sword of the Templar, the enemies of the order forced them to turn it into a dagger.

Ritual trowels of bricklayers in the hands of the Templars began to build tombs. ” Similarly, the aforementioned Eliphas Levi narrates in his “History of Magic”: “After the execution, three disguised people secretly gathered under the scaffold of Jacob de Molay and, wetting his handkerchief in his blood, swore over three triangle-folded daggers in eternal revenge on the king and pope” that is, the leadership of the ruling regime and the ruling ideology of any goyish state that is not controlled by the Freemasons, which to this day is the axis of all Masonic programs in the world.

Freemason Gotgold Ephraim Lessing in Ch. II its “Dialogues on Freemasonry” emphasized the continuity of the modern Freemasons from the Templars; it is not for nothing that in his drama “Nathan the Wise” he depicted a young templar in such buying colors!

In the days of persecution of the order, some Templars fled across the sea to their friends of the Assassins. Most of them moved to Scotland and, according to legend, found a brotherly reception in the Masonic lodges supposedly existed there from Roman times and in any case before the founding of the Knights Templar. Therefore, it is not by chance that the name of the highest degrees of Freemasonry is “Scottish”.

Despite the fact that a number of masons, in order to entangle traces, dispute the authenticity of the famous “York Charter”, which established the foundation of Freemasonry in England by the 3rd century AD. er., - smoke, as you know, without fire. Like old slutty freemasonry, all the time seeks to reduce its age; at least a few hundred years. Shyly turning away from the “York Charter”, the Great Lodge of Scotland in Edinburgh nonetheless asserts its successive uninterrupted connection with the lodge formed in York in 986. In memory of the place where the first masonic lodge originated in England, the masonic colonizers of North America renamed New Amsterdam to New York, and it is not

surprising that it is here that one of the main pillars of the world golden pyramid stands most deeply and firmly. Exactly 9 centuries later, the Great Lodge of Edinburgh commissioned its brother Lurie to write its history, which states that it was founded only on St. Andrew’s Day, 1736. Thus, the "development" of the highest degrees of Scottish Freemasonry by the French is another attempt to cover the traces of what has long existed. But if you stand on the Jewish occult point of view, then the situation with Scotland is altogether amiss. Is it not strange that in the tragedy of the great secret reader Shakespeare "Macbeth" appear witches from Scotland, and it was not from them that the Roman emperor Adrian (who ruled the empire from 117 to 138 AD) had to build the famous wall of Adrian, fencing off Is the whole island of England from Scotland? But it was he who, for the sake of the golden pyramid, refused at the very beginning of his reign, the conquests made by his adopted Trajan on the other side of the Euphrates. It was he who, for the sake of the same Levites, went against Roskolans and Sariates. But exactly three years after his epiphany — the suppression of the Bar-Kolba uprising, whose fanatics, inspired by the infamous Rabbi Akiba, hoisted the magically bloody Magen-Shlomo — Leiba Davidovich Bronstein’s favorite symbol — on their heads - Adrian died from this drowsy. Isn't it strange that the mentioned Papus in his book “Damned Knowledge” quite seriously asserts that in Scotland to this day, along with the Loch Ness, there are powerful sorcerers and other evil spirits? Is it not strange that the ancient Scottish clans periodically convene congresses, the content of which is kept in the deepest secret? Is it not strange that the Scottish blood of the ancient Lermont family in the veins of our Lermontov, plus Byron's compatriot fascination with his ancestors, were the cause of his melancholy and love, the love of the cute Demon? Is it not strange that V.I. Kryzhanovskaya-Rochester puts the castle of white magicians in his novels in Scotland? But how long can you skillfully ride this magic and turn it into black?

Summarizing the above, it must be said that the process of the

Templars with its consequences is a business card, which, along with the “Legend of Adoniram”, is still presented by the Freemasons.

In most cases, the path to Freemasonry does not begin immediately, but from one of its “waiting rooms”, which, along with Christianity and sects, most often are various philanthropic societies, led by Freemasons, who gaze upon possible candidates for real Freemasonry. Sometimes such societies are even immediately invested in the form of Masonic lodges, and the only task declared, for example, the fight against alcoholism.

Afterword

This concludes a brief overview of the ancient mysteries. I hope this book has helped you better understand the history of our civilization.

Bests regards, Sarah B. Williams